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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

The White Mask. By Mrs. Thomson, author of "Widows and Widowers," "Ragland Castle," &c. 3 vols. London, R. Bentley.

EVERY new production of Mrs. Thomson's seems to indicate greater facility, greater skill in construction, and greater power. Much as we have admired her preceding novels, the present has pleased us more than any of them. It is so easy and so natural, that we never dream of any part of it being invented, but go along with the author, from beginning to end, as if we had lived at the time and among the individuals who are grouped and figure in her page. Yet, without over-straining, there are incidents and plots enough to excite a lively interest, and the *dénouement* is well wrought out to satisfy the expectations raised in the conduct of the story.

The prominent character of the intriguing Duchess of Tycoonel gives the title to the work; the famed White Mask being one of the accompaniments of the many disguises under which she so indefatigably aided the cause of the abdicated king. Still the book is not deeply historical, but embraces only a single scheme of the busy Duchess's fermenting, as a sufficient ground on which to build all the rest. Most of the other actors in the animated narrative are real persons. Amongst them is George Farquhar, the celebrated dramatist, who is finely portrayed, and, indeed, second to neither the hero nor the heroine of the piece. The latter, Lady Amy Lennard, is as sweet and womanly a creature as could grace the realm of fiction, although the grand-daughter of the famous or infamous Lady Castlemaine. The hero, also, is a noble and generous personage, yet not untouched by the vices of the age. Farquhar is happily and entirely mixed up with the events of the tale, and only quits the scene towards its finale, at which period his disclosures are necessary to the winding up, and he requires an immediate interview with Amy. The following quotation relates to these circumstances:—

"He slumbered long and heavily, but awoke with a strange foreboding at his heart. There was a letter near him on his bed. It was from Lady Amy, who announced that her usual and daily visit was to be deferred until the morrow. 'The morrow!' repeated Farquhar; 'I must see her to-day. I must—I must speak to her!' His words, as those of the sick usually are, were law; but his wife on this occasion remonstrated. 'Perceive you not,' she argued, holding up the note from Amy, 'that Lady Amy has business of much import—nay, also, that she is ill at ease and indisposed?' 'I see! I note it all! But I must see her,' reiterated Farquhar impatiently. 'Oh, Margaret! I shall not trouble you nor her long—vex me not by contradiction!' Poor Farquhar! He looked pitifully at his wife as he spoke. Perhaps the many hours of irritation, the domestic conflicts, originating in difficulties and anxieties, and sharpened by the uncongenial nature of each other's minds—recurred to him at that instant. The penury-stricken have much to plead in extenuation of such errors. Were the bitter

taunt, the determined, relentless, hourly opposition, the absence of all forbearance, confined to them, the good spirits who view with sorrow the harrowing scene of domestic unquiet might pity and excuse; but wherefore do the prosperous cast away the blessings shed so prodigally over their path, and suffer the infectious curse of dissension to banish felicity from their homes? Poor Farquhar! His was a gentle nature. He loved not his wife. She had deceived him to his ruin: but he forgot not that he had also deceived; and his generous heart recalled, in contrition, the ills that she had shared with him, and the many aggravations by which temper had sometimes added the sharpest fangs to the privations of indigence. He took her hand: 'Forgive me, dear Margaret, if I spoke roughly. I must see her. It is not that her presence brings me more comfort than yours,' he added falteringly, and watching the moody countenance which he well knew betokened the dark whisperings of a jealous disposition; 'but we have known each other long, and I have somewhat to say to Lady Amy. Think,' he added persuasively, 'how much of comfort we owe to her,—our children clothed, sustained,—our own hearts lightened,—my dying hours cheered!' Margaret turned away, yet still she lingered. Hers was that proud, narrow heart, in which there is room but for one image—that was the image of her husband. Of all who watched his gradual but sure decline, Margaret was the only person blindly determined not to see his danger. She would not own it to herself, she would not let the conviction which others sought to force upon her enter her mind, and, towards Farquhar, soften the stern, sullen, cold manner which had become habitual to her, and which concealed—but not from *him*—the most ardent affection;—yet an affection not seeking, strange to say, the happiness of its object, but busy with its own wrongs, its own dignity,—tenacious, exacting, suspicious, even on the brink of doom,—desponding, maddening, after all was at an end, and when the doubted, the idolised, the harassed one had ceased to breathe. Margaret would gladly have banished every visitant; she would, if she could have done it, have excluded every friend, and have felt herself the one sole solace, nurse, companion. Kindnesses she received coldly—the grief of others seemed an intrusion on her own privileges. She had guessed the secret of her husband's heart—she read it in the expression of his fading countenance; in the delight, the expectation, the interest, when the object was absent—the timid expression of these feelings when the unconscious Amy was present. To the melancholy creature who claimed, by right, his best affections, yet who had done little to ensure them, to her comfortless attendance of duty, her passionless aspect, Farquhar had to contrast the gentle, sensitive, kind, encouraging being, whose visits were like some bright vision of our uneasy sleep—whose voice was melody—whose persuasions were all powerful. God, who reads the heart, might, nevertheless, read in that of the dying man the purest motives—a fidelity untouched even by the dangerous associations of former years; but man, viewing the trial, might mark

and apply the lesson of retribution—the lesson daily presented to our eyes—the interested marriage, sternly chastised by the regrets of the wandering affections. Margaret, however reluctantly, complied with Farquhar's request; and about noon, a messenger, charged with a few lines written at his dictation, arrived at the Friary."

The meeting takes place, and unfolds the mystery of the story, which, however, we leave intact, to gratify the curiosity of the reader, though sorely tempted to extract it as a sample of the natural tender passages with which the volumes abound. Besides these, there are a multitude of acute observations and reflections, scattered through the pages, which we cannot detach for illustration, notwithstanding the sparkling effect they produce in the general picture. We add one short specimen:—

"But soon the walking funeral, the simplest and most picturesque of all, is to be done away. The poor man is to be grand even in his shroud. A carriage and hearse are to be joined in one, and the cold corpse is to be bowled and rattled away to its resting-place. Nothing is simple, nothing is humble now. We have no sempstresses—they are all dressmakers; no schools—they are become academies; no milliners—they are elevated into *modistes*: and the same visionary principle goes on throughout all society—cooks must needs fancy themselves cooks and housekeepers, to be happy; the plain family man-servant must be styled 'butler,' at your service; the homely footboy must be tiger, page, or groom. All the world are esquires, and all the world's womankind go to court, and wear plumes, when, in some instances, they would be better advised to be mending stockings. But these are low, unfashionable sentiments; and I hasten from them to resume the thread of my narrative."

With our cordial commendations we must now dismiss the *White Mask*; but that it may not have the injustice of unproportioned brevity done to so much that is excellent, conclude with a final quotation.

"The boatman, at Farquhar's orders, plied his oars as far as Whitehall stairs; and, stepping out, the dramatist musingly sauntered towards St. James's. It was noon; and Farquhar, like other men of his stamp, had his favourite dinner-haunt, which the regularity of the mess-room, to which his volatile temper had for some time unwillingly submitted, rendered the more agreeable. He entered the Mitre Tavern, kept by one Mistress Oldfield, in St. James's Market, and ordering dinner, sat down in the coffee-room. It was earlier than the usual hour, when wits and poets, lordlings and players, thronged to the Mitre, and the room was nearly empty when Farquhar, one portion of his heart at Battersea and the other at Drury Lane, leaned his head upon his hands, waiting for his repast. He fell almost into a sleep, but was aroused from it by a soft young voice, reading in impassioned accents a play of Beaumont and Fletcher's. This was in the bar, which was separated from the coffee-room only by a wooden partition. The ear of Farquhar, discriminative and acute, caught the first, and perfect accents of the unseen reader. At this

era, before the Italian opera was introduced, the taste for dramatic performances ran through every class of society—but the power to make the sentiments of our national writers vocal, whether in song or speech, was accorded in its perfection but to a gifted few. Women of the middle ranks were, in particular, but poorly educated; their pronunciation was bad, their knowledge of punctuation defective—and their persons, generally speaking, attended with a far more elaborate care than their minds. Farquhar, therefore, listened with surprise. The young female, for such she must be, was evidently reading to herself, with a grace and truth which few of the practised comedians of the day had attained. He mounted on a bench, and, through the glass screen which gave light to the coffee-room, looked into the bar. A girl of exquisite beauty sat reading at a table. A white hand and arm, over which a short black mitten was neatly drawn, were from time to time upraised in action, as the passages of the play required such gestures. The age of this person appeared to be fifteen or sixteen, whilst her dress was that of a gentlewoman, but of a gentlewoman whose fortunes were reduced. 'Come, Nancy,' said a sharp voice, 'shut your book, and bestir yourself. Plays and tales are all vastly well for idle gentlefolks, but we have our bread to get. There, carry that lemon within—Master Farquhar must needs have it to squeeze over his capon. Child, your mob is awry, and I am sick of your nonsense,' added the good lady, impatiently, and tossing the book to the other side of the room. The girl said nothing, but stood quite still, till the bustling old lady had disappeared; then, whilst she cut the lemon into slices, the fair young creature sung over her unsuitable occupation, in a girlish voice—but there was pathos in her notes, the tone was clear and sweet, the voice, though uncultured, flexible and rich. It was a Jacobite ditty:—

'We have grieved the land should shun thee,
And have never ceased to mourn thee;
But for all our grief
There was no relief,—
Now, man o' the moon, return thee.
There's Orion, with his powder-belt,
And Mars, that burning rover;
But of all the lights
That rule the night
The man o' the moon for ever!

As she uttered the last words, the young singer, plate in hand, entered the coffee-room. Farquhar had jumped down from the bench, and was seated demurely at the table in an instant. Preoccupied, as he believed his heart to be, a warmer votary never had beauty than the poetic Irishman; and beauty, enhanced by talent, were to him irresistible. The girl, modest—for at that early period she was modest—and yet with self-possession, meekly inquired, 'Had he any orders?' 'My dinner anon,' replied Farquhar, with an absent air—and, mistress—nay—he cried jocularly, 'I have caught thee singing the rebels' song. Who taught you such? Nay, who taught you to read, and to play, as I'll be bound you will, as well as Brace-girdle herself? Your voice, Mistress Nancy, shall make your fortune.' 'And who taught you to know my name was Nancy?' retorted the girl laughingly: 'and who bade you speak so familiarly to a gentlewoman, master sauce-box?' she added; yet an arch smile played over those beautiful features which afterwards, extolled and celebrated, proved a snare to the lovely, the gifted, but unfortunate, Anne Oldfield, whose talents, hitherto buried, were thus unexpectedly brought to light. 'Come, Nancy, you are not angry with me,' said Far-

quhar, looking with undisguised and free admiration upon the countenance of Anne Oldfield. 'Pshaw, Anne, 'tis a vulgar name; I shall write verses to you, and style you Penelope—my Penelope.' He took her hand as he spoke, for the man who in the presence of rank and beauty was all deference and delicacy, could betray a very different character in the society of the lowly and, as a very slight observation proved, of those who were vulnerable to his addresses. No one would have known in his freedom of his present manner, the humble, refined, despairing lover of Lady Amy. Anne Oldfield snatched away her hand, but a short musical laugh, a deep blush, and a sly glance from her eye, bespoke that there was within her heart that passion which saps the citadel of innocence—the love of admiration. Even Farquhar—for though dissolute, he was not depraved—looked upon her, as he perceived the seeds of coquetry in the young beauty, with pity. 'What is your history? Who are you? How came you here?' he asked in a tone of kindness, almost of respect. The tale was soon told: an officer's daughter, her father, Captain Oldfield, was no more; and Anne was consigned to the protection of her aunt, the hostess of the Mitre, a kind and thrifty body, but wholly unfitted, either by mind or station, for the guardianship of a beautiful, clever, and high-spirited young creature. Ambitious though poor, Anne felt the degradation of the bar, and pined for some employment, honest of course, at least she said so, that would release her from the task of filling and washing glasses and of squeezing lemons. 'Besides,' added Anne, covering her face with her handkerchief, 'there are so many young gallants coming here to pester one with their phrasing. 'Tis no place for—' she checked herself. 'For a modest gentlewoman,' said Farquhar gravely; 'no, mistress Anne, 'tis not;—and yet what place were better? Your station and your fancy would not let you be a waiting woman to any lady of rank, I should suppose? You have learned no craft, no artifices of needle-work, no embroidery, not even to clear-starch, nor pink one's silk stockings—I be bound?' and Farquhar finished his inquiries with a broad laugh. 'I have learnt those things,' replied Anne; 'every gentlewoman knows as much; but, to my mind, poetry and song are worth them all. I can do confectionary-work too,' she added, boastfully; then blushing, whispered, 'but I should like to go upon the stage.' 'A dangerous walk,' returned Farquhar, thoughtfully, 'and yet a glorious one.' He fixed his eyes upon the perfect yet flexible features as he spoke, those features which Pope has described as being prized even in the valley of the shadow of death by their admired possessor:—

'And, Betty, give this cheek a little red.'

The girl read his thoughts. 'Speak to my aunt,' she cried, impetuously; 'for here she comes!' She came indeed: the old story—vanity, the tool and victim of avarice; the old fashion—that of reasoning oneself into a belief, that what was lucrative and agreeable might, by the aid of casuistry, be rendered moral and expedient; and the young girl, to remove her from the temptation of the bar-room, was to be transplanted to the fiery ordeal of the green-room. 'I will shew her to Wilks,' was Farquhar's final decision. 'Meantime, come with her, my good hostess, this next Friday'—he scrawled some orders as he spoke—and see my play, which—he added, with much perturbation, 'which is to make or to mar me.' She went—full of genius, innocent

but thoughtless, and, in all the bloom of her youth, Anne Oldfield was thus presented to the world. Not all her candour and simplicity, not all the goodness of her heart, nor the generosity of her feelings, could save her from the worst of fates."

The Heimskringla; or, Chronicle of the Kings of Norway. Translated from the Icelandic of Snorro Sturleson, with a Preliminary Dissertation, by S. Laing, Esq., author of "A Residence in Norway," &c. 3 vols. 8vo. London, Longman and Co.

MR. LAING is a solid writer, and perhaps, like his northern subjects, a little cold. A picturesque block of Norwegian ice might form an appropriate vignette, clear, transparent, well-defined, and full of remarkable shapes, but still belonging to the regions of frost, and, if illumined, certainly not warmed by the sunshine.

The dissertation is an able essay, blurred by some repetitions, in which the author labours a strenuous eulogy upon the Northmen, who, he contends, after the Romans, left more of their impress upon every coast and people of Europe than all other causes put together during many long centuries. He exalts them far above their Anglo-Saxon predecessors, and considers their second infusion of the same race to have had paramount influence on the constitution, habits, and destiny of England and all our quarter of the earth:—

"If we strike off Wales, Cornwall, the western borders towards Scotland, and all comprehended in the kingdom of Northumberland, East Anglia, and other parts peopled by Northmen and their descendants, it is difficult to believe that the old Anglo-Saxon branch could have been predominant in the island, in numbers, power, and social influence; or could have prevailed to such an extent over the character and spirit of the population as to bury all social movement under the apathy and superstition in which they appear to have been sunk. The rebellions against William the Conqueror and his successors appear to have been almost always raised, or mainly supported, in the counties of recent Danish descent, not in those peopled by the old Anglo-Saxon race. The spirit and character of men having rights in society were undoubtedly renewed and kept alive in England by this great infusion into the population of people who had these rights, and the spirit and character produced by them in their native land. A new and more vigorous branch was planted in the country than the old Anglo-Saxon. In historical research it is surely more reasonable to go to the nearest source of the institutions, laws, and spirit of a people—to the recent and great infusion into England from the north, during the ninth, tenth, and eleventh centuries, of men bred up in a rude but vigorous exercise of their rights in legislation, and in all the acts of their government—than to the most remote; and to trace in the obscure hints of Tacitus of popular and free institutions existing a thousand years before in the forests of Germany, the origin of our parliaments, constitution, and national character. The German people, the true unmixed descendants of the old Saxon race whom Tacitus describes, never, from the earliest date in modern history to the present day, had a single hour of religious, civil, and political liberty, as nations, or as individuals,—never enjoyed the rights which the American citizen or the British subject, however imperfectly, enjoy in the freedom of person, property, and mind, at the present day, in their social condition. If the

great stock itself of the Anglo-Saxon race has not transmitted to its immediate posterity in its own land the institutions of a free people, nor the spirit, character, independence of mind, on which alone they can be founded with stability, it appears absurd to trace to that stock our free institutions, and the principles in our character and spirit by which they are maintained, when we find a source so much nearer from which they would naturally flow. Our civil, religious, and political rights,—the principles, spirit, and forms of legislation through which they work in our social union, are the legitimate offspring of the Things of the Northmen, not of the Wittenage-moth of the Anglo-Saxons—of the independent Norse viking, not of the abject Saxon monk."

The Danish progenitors of our mixed island population are indeed greatly exalted by Mr. Laing; and he traces most of our national boasts to their superior character. Derived from Asia, under some Odin, four hundred years before, or four hundred years after, the Christian era, the Scandinavians are represented to have enjoyed a literature at the period of their warlike viking expeditions, and to have displayed qualities quite the reverse of piratical barbarity. It is argued that they owed their victories to their higher range of intelligence, which made them, the few, a terror to the many whom they invaded. We are not to believe the monkish and Anglo-Saxon writers who tell of nothing but their cruelties and ravages,—in short, Mr. Laing makes them out to have been a very superior people. To this effect he has translated the celebrated work of Sturleson (born in 1178), which contains an animated account of the demigods, heroes, kings, and vikings of the North—of their expeditions, customs, institutions, letters, &c. &c., from the middle of the ninth till near the end of the 12th century; as collected, and joined together, from the ancient sagas, or songs, which described them and these events. Altogether it is a most acceptable work, and a sterling addition to our libraries; though we do not feel ourselves disposed to go the length of the writer's favourite theories. Without saying more concerning them, however, we must, for the present, content ourselves with offering a few exemplary extracts.

"The many allusions in the poems and songs of the scalds presuppose even a very intimate knowledge, on the part of the hearers, with a very complicated mythological nomenclature and system. Every one, from the lowest to the highest, must have been familiar with the names, functions, attributes, histories ascribed to these gods, or the scald would have been unintelligible. The great development of the intellectual powers among the Northmen, is indeed one of the most curious inferences to be drawn from the sagas. The descriptions of relative situations of countries, as east, west, north, or south, shew generalised ideas and habits of thinking among their seafaring men; and the songs of the scalds, as those of the four who accompanied Saint Olaf at the battle of Stiklesland, seem to have been instantly seized and got by heart by the people,—the Biarkemal to have been instantly recognised, and thought applicable to their situation; and all the mythological, and to us obscure allusions, to have been understood generally in the halls in which the scalds recited or sung their compositions. Their religion must have been taught to them, although we find few traces of the religious establishment or social arrangements by which this was done. The material remains of this religion of Odin are surprisingly few. We find

in the north very few remains of temples;—no statues, emblems, images, symbols. Was it actually more spiritual than other systems of paganism, and therefore less material in its outward expression? If we consider the vast mounds raised in memory of the dead, and their high appreciation of their great men of former ages, we can scarcely doubt but that the Northmen had higher notions of a future state than that of drinking ale in Valhalla. The temples of Odin appear to have been but thinly scattered. We hear but of the one at Mære, and one at Lade, in the Drontheim district. A mound of earth alone remains at Mære, which was the principal temple in the north of Norway; houses or halls, constructed of wood, for receiving the people who came together to eat, drink, and transact their business, have probably been all the structures. The temple at Upsal, or Upsalr (the up-halls or great halls), should have left some traces of former magnificence; for it was the residence of Odin himself,—the headquarters, the Rome of the Odin religion; and in part, at least, was constructed of stone."

The scalds were ambassadors, genealogists, historians,—in short, the heralds' college of these ages, when writings were not: but we cannot now illustrate their occupations.

"The lowest class in the community were the thræll (thralls, slaves). They were the prisoners captured by the vikings at sea on piratical cruises, or carried off from the coasts of foreign countries in marauding expeditions. These captives were, if not ransomed by their friends, bought and sold at regular slave-markets. The owners could kill them without any fine, mulct, or manbod to the king, as in the case of the murder or manslaughter of a free man. King Olaf Trygvesson, in his childhood, his mother Astrid, and his foster-father Thorolf, were captured by an Esthonian viking as they were crossing the sea from Sweden on their way to Novogorod, and were divided among the crew, and sold. An Esthonian man called Klerkon got Olaf and Thorolf as his share of the booty; but Astrid was separated from her son Olaf, then only three years of age. Klerkon thought Thorolf too old for a slave, and that no work would be got out of him to repay his food, and therefore killed him; but sold the boy to a man called Klærk for a goat. A peasant called Reas bought him from Klærk for a good cloak; and he remained in slavery until he was accidentally recognised by his uncle, who was in the service of the Russian king, and was by him taken to the court of Novogorod, where he grew up. His mother Astrid, apparently long afterwards, was recognised by a Norwegian merchant called Lodin at a slave-market to which she had been brought for sale. Lodin offered to purchase her, and carry her home to Norway, if she would accept of him in marriage, which she joyfully agreed to; Lodin being a man of good birth, who sometimes went on expeditions as a merchant, and sometimes on viking cruises. On her return to Norway, her friends approved of the match as suitable; and when her son, King Olaf Trygvesson, came to the throne, Lodin and his sons by Astrid were in high favour. This account of the capturing, selling, and buying slaves, and killing one worn out, is related, as it would be at present in the streets of Washington, as an ordinary matter. Slavery among the Anglo-Saxons at this period—namely, in the last half of the tenth century—appears to have become rather an *adscriptio gleba*—the man sold or transferred with the land—than a distinct saleable property in the person of the slave; at least, we hear of

no slave-markets in England at which slaves were bought and sold. In Norway this class appears to have been better treated than on the south side of the Baltic, and to have had some rights. Lodin had to ask his slave Astrid to accept of him in marriage. We find them also in the first half of the 11th century, at least under some masters, considered capable of acquiring and holding property of their own. When Asbiorn came from Halogaland in the north of Norway to purchase a cargo of meal and malt, of which articles King Olaf the Saint, fearing a scarcity, had prohibited the exportation from the south of Norway, he went to his relation Erling Skialgsson, a peasant or *bondi*, who was married to a sister of the late king, Olaf Trygvesson, and was a man of great power. Erling told Asbiorn that in consequence of the law he could not supply him, but that his thralls or slaves could probably sell him as much as he required for loading his vessel; adding the remarkable observation, that they, the slaves, are not bound by the law and country regulation like other men,—evidently from the notion that they were not parties, like other men, to the making the law in the Thing. It is told of this Erling, who was one of the most considerable men in the country, and brother-in-law of King Olaf Trygvesson, although of the bonder or peasant class, that he had always ninety free-born men in his house, and two hundred or more when Earl Hakon, then regent of the country, came into the neighbourhood; that he had a ship of thirty-two banks of oars; and when he went on a viking cruise, or in a levy with the king, had two hundred men at least with him. He had always on his farm thirty slaves, besides other workpeople; and he gave them a certain task as a day's work to do, and gave them leave to work for themselves in the twilight, or in the night. He also gave them land to sow, and gave them the benefit of their own crops; and he put upon them a certain value, so that they could redeem themselves from slavery, which some could do the first or second year, and 'all who had any luck could do it in the third year.' With this money Erling bought new slaves, and he settled those who had thus obtained their freedom on his newly cleared land, and found employment for them in useful trades, or in the herring fishery, for which he furnished them with nets and salt. The same course of management is ascribed in the 'saga' of Saint Olaf to his stepfather, Sigurd Syr, who is celebrated for his prudence, and wisdom and skill in husbandry; and it has probably been general among the slaveholders. The slaves who had thus obtained their freedom would belong to what appears to have been a distinct class from the peasants or bonders on the one hand, or the slaves on the other—the class of unfree men. This class—the unfree—appears to have consisted of those who, not being udal-born to any land in the country, so as to be connected with, and have an interest in, the succession to any family-estate, were not free of the Things; were not entitled to appear and deliberate in those assemblies; were not Thingsmen. This class of unfree is frequently mentioned in general levies for repelling invasion, when all men, free and unfree, are summoned to appear in arms; and the term unfree evidently refers to men who had personal freedom, and were not thralls, as the latter could only be collected to a levy by their masters. This class would include all the cottars on the land paying a rent in work upon the farm to the peasant, who was udal-born proprietor; and, under the name of housemen, this class of labourers in husbandry

still exists on every farm in Norway. It would include also the house-carls, or freeborn indoor men, of whom Erling, we see, always kept ninety about him. They were, in fact, his body-guard and garrison, the equivalent to the troop maintained by the feudal baron of Germany in his castle; and they followed the *bondi* or peasant in his summer excursions of piracy, or on the levy when called out by the king. They appear to have been free to serve whom they pleased. We find many of the class of bonders who kept a suite of eighty or ninety men; as Erling, hark of Thiot, and others. Swein, of the little isle of Gairsay in Orkney, kept, we are told in the Orkneying Saga, eighty men all winter; and as we see the owner of this farm, which could not produce bread for one-fourth of that number, trusting for many years to his success in piracy for subsisting his retainers, we must conclude that they formed a numerous class of the community. This class would also include workpeople, labourers, fishermen, tradesmen, and others about towns and farms, or rural townships, who, although personally free and freeborn, not slaves, were unfree in respect of the rights possessed by the class of bonders, landowners, or peasants, in the Things. They had the protection and civil rights imparted by laws, but not the right to a voice in the enactment of the laws, or regulation of public affairs in the Things of the country. They were, in their rights, in the condition of the German population at the present day. The class above the unfree in civil rights, the free peasant-proprietors, or bonder class, were the most important and influential in the community."

Here we must pause.

A Treatise on Electricity, Magnetism, and Meteorology. By Dr. Lardner. 2 vols. Vol. II. completed by C. V. Walker, Secretary to the Electrical Society. Longman and Co.

Lectures on Electricity; comprising Galvanism, Magnetism, Electro-Magnetism, Magneto- and Thermo-Electricity. By Henry M. Noad. Pp. 457. Knight and Sons.

THE want of a compendious treatise on electricity has been felt for some time. The last ten or twenty years have so enriched the science by accumulated facts, and so remodelled it by comprehensive generalisations, that it has now arrived at a rank and importance to which few of the physical sciences are superior. While original discoveries in this science have been more numerous than in any other for the same space of time, the treatises on the subject have by no means kept pace with the progress of discovery. Becquerel's *Traité* ranks, perhaps, highest on the subject, but although containing nearly all the published papers on electricity, it is unwieldy and expensive; it is, indeed, little else than a mere collection of original memoirs, arranged many of them in the order in which they came into the compiler's hands, and, from the want of a well digested index, it forms but a very imperfect book of reference.

We had occasion to notice the first volume of Lardner's *Electricity* in not very favourable terms, as being rather a republication of old matter than a careful digest of new, or rather of old and new together, i.e. of the whole science as existing at the present day. It appears that of the second volume now before us a great portion was prepared by Dr. Lardner; and, owing to circumstances, having been left by him in an unfinished state, Mr. Walker was invited to complete it—no very easy task. It is no more possible for one

mind exactly to follow out the web of thought of another than for patches to be introduced into garments without being rendered evident to the merest inspection. The way in which this unavoidable incongruity is made evident in this volume is, by the frequent number of quotations introduced into the portion of the work completed by Mr. Walker, occasioned (as, indeed, he states in the preface) by his desire to introduce subjects which he considered novel and important, but for which Dr. Lardner had not left sufficient space. He has contrived, by placing the quotations (as is generally done) in small type, to crowd in a great deal of valuable matter, which he would probably have digested more analytically had he written the entire of the treatise.

The volume commences with a description of condensers and electroscopic instruments; thence passing on to the Leyden phial, and thence to some of the ordinary experiments illustrative of electrical attraction and repulsion. Chap. xv., by Mr. Walker, gives a good abstract of the recent researches of Armstrong, Faraday, and others, on the interesting electrical phenomena lately detected in effluent steam. In book ii. atmospheric electricity, thunder and lightning, the aurora borealis, &c., are discussed at considerable length. The three concluding chapters are by Mr. Walker, on waterspouts, Faraday's theory of induction, and some supplementary memoranda.

Book iii. takes up voltaic electricity, and is almost entirely written by Mr. Walker: it gives an abstract of all that is worthy of remark in the progress of this branch of the science, which may be considered as almost formed during the last few years; the contact and chemical theories; the construction and improvements in the voltaic battery; the progress of electro-metallurgy and electro-crystallography. The fourth book, also by Mr. Walker, on magnetism, gives the theories and practice of magnetisation and the directive effects of the needle. Book v. is on electro-magnetism; the first chapters, by Dr. Lardner, on the natural action of electric and magnetic currents; and the last part, on their application to mechanical motion, telegraphic communication, &c., by Mr. Walker. Book vi., on the converse force to electro-magnetism, viz. magneto-electricity; and book vii., on thermo-electricity, are both by Mr. Walker.

We may observe generally on the above brief analysis of contents, that the matter edited by Dr. Lardner is principally, if not entirely, old; and the engravings are for the most part taken without any alteration from books already published on the subject, while the portion executed by Mr. Walker almost entirely consists of new matter. It would scarcely be fair to consider the work of Dr. Lardner as entirely a *réchauffé*, he not having completed his task; but from the space left by him, and the general tenor of his writing, it is not probable that he would have been at much pains to seek out the latest and most important researches. We do not wish to judge harshly of an absent party, but we cannot but consider it fortunate that the completion of the work has been entrusted to Mr. Walker, as in consequence of his familiarity with the science as it stands, that portion of the public which, not being in a position conveniently to refer to original papers, is obliged to acquire its information from treatises, will obtain in this volume a condensed and correct abstract of them: it is the more important as, according to the general but censurable practice of treatise-writers, each successive work serves as the substantive basis of the next: a little fringe and a new title generally form a

new book. This practice is, we trust, decreasing; and we are happy to see in both the works before us strong evidence of such decrease.

The new edition of Mr. Noad's book, which we have placed at the head of this notice in conjunction with Lardner's *Cyclopædia*, is a very great improvement upon the former edition: it is evident that Mr. Noad has made the best use of his time in the interim, and he now gives to the public a volume, which is really a valuable compilation of the principal researches in electricity.

We do not say that there is not yet room for a treatise on electricity purely original and didactic in its character, such as we suggested in our former article on this subject; but we fear this is not likely to be supplied: the minds of men of science are generally too much occupied with research to devote the time and labour necessary to organise a treatise, in which each experiment and principle enounced should be the immediate step to the following one,—which should teach as well as instruct. There being no present probability of such a work, the two here noticed will divide and deservedly occupy the electrical market—a market far too limited for the importance of the subject.

Fifty Days on board a Slave-Vessel, in the Mozambique Channel, in April and May 1843.

By the Rev. P. G. Hill, Chaplain of H.M.S. Cleopatra. Pp. 115. London, Murray.

FIFTY days of horror; but the worst horror of all is the announcement that cargoes of slaves, liberated by cruisers from their ruthless thralldom in slaving vessels, so far from being benefited by the change, suffer infinitely more than if they had proceeded on their voyage, and been sold in Brazil, or elsewhere, to the highest bidders! After relating the fearful scenes (to which we will by-and-by advert) on board the "Progresso," taken by the "Cleopatra" and sent with a prize-master to the Cape of Good Hope, Mr. Hill says:—

"It is too manifest, that, under circumstances similar to those which I have related, the capture of the 'prize' must be an event far more disastrous to the slave than to the slave-dealer. It cannot be supposed that the accumulated calamities which ensued to the hapless beings on board the 'Progresso,' on their transfer to the protection of their liberators, could have taken place had they continued in the hands of their purchasers. As the latter have the highest interest which men can have in the preservation of an extremely valuable cargo, so are they, of all men, most qualified for the task, by experience of the system best calculated to provide for their health and safety, and by concurrence of able hands, in ample number, to carry that system into effect. In these respects, the reverse may generally be asserted of those who, on capture of the vessel by a ship of war, succeed to their charge."—"It is not to be expected that any individual can be equal, in the care of five hundred helpless beings, to a burden usually divided among fifteen or twenty persons, well trained to the work, and employed in it day and night. The advantage of improved medical treatment offers less alleviation to the sufferings of the negroes than would be at first supposed. All that medical care and skill, as adapted to European constitutions and maladies, could effect, was tried by our assistant-surgeon on the negroes of the 'Progresso,' without success, that I am aware of, in any one instance. On the other hand, the slave-dealers, in their selection and application of the

large stores of medicines found on board the vessel, may be presumed to have been guided by some experience of their beneficial effects. In general, it is certain that the augmentation of sufferings, under the present system employed for the suppression of the slave-trade, is such as to present an additional motive for the adoption of a more efficient course, by taking some measures which may give force to the penal enactments against persons engaged in that traffic. While we boast the name of Wilberforce, and the genius and eloquence which enabled him to arouse so general a zeal against the slave-trade; while others are disputing with him the claim of being 'the true annihilator of the slave-trade!' that trade, so far from being annihilated, is at this very hour carried on under circumstances of greater atrocity than were known in his time, and the blood of the poor victims calls more loudly on us as the actual, though unintentional, aggravators of their miseries."

And is this a true picture of all we get for our sacrifices in the holy cause of humanity? The chaplain plainly tells us there is no remedy for the evil but punishing the slave-transporters as pirates, and trusting to time and missionary effort to introduce better feelings into the interior of Africa.

The Cleopatra, after visiting Rio Janeiro and the Mauritius, took her cruising station in Mozambique Channel; and soon after captured the Progresso:—"It was a strange scene which presented itself to us when we mounted her side. The deck was crowded to the utmost with naked negroes, to the number, as stated in her papers, of 450, in almost riotous confusion, having revolted, before our arrival, against their late masters; who, on their part, also shewed strong excitement, from feelings, it may be supposed, of no pleasant nature. The negroes, a meagre, famished-looking throng, having broken through all control, had seized everything to which they had a fancy in the vessel; some with hands full of 'farinha,' the powdered root of the mandros or cassava; others with large pieces of pork and beef, having broken open the casks; and some had taken fowls from the coops, which they devoured raw. Many were busily dipping rags, fastened to bits of string, into the water-casks; and, unhappily, there were some who, by a like method, got at the contents of a cask of 'aguardiente,' fiery Brazilian rum, of which they drank to excess. The addition of our boats' crews to this crowd left hardly room to move on the deck. The shrill hubbub of noises, which I cannot attempt to describe, expressive, however, of the wildest joy, thrilled on the ear, mingled with the clank of the iron, as they were knocking off their fetters on every side. It seemed that, from the moment the first ball was fired, they had been actively employed in thus freeing themselves, in which our men were not slow in lending their assistance. I counted but thirty shackled together in pairs; but many more pairs of shackles were found below. We were not left an instant in doubt as to the light in which they viewed us. They crawled in crowds, and rubbed caressingly our feet and clothes with their hands, even rolling themselves, as far as room allowed, on the deck before us. And when they saw the crew of the vessel rather unceremoniously sent over the side into the boat which was to take them prisoners to the frigate, they sent up a long, universal shout of triumph and delight. Account was now taken of the number of the negroes, amounting to 447. Of these were 189 men, few, however, if any, exceeding twenty

years of age; forty-five women; 213 boys. The number of sick among them was reckoned at twenty-five."

The prize was sent off with fourteen persons from the Cleopatra, and two Spaniards and a Portuguese belonging to the crew of the slaver:—"During the first watch, our breeze was light and variable, the water smooth, the recently liberated negroes sleeping, or lying in quietness about the deck. Their slender supple limbs entwined in a surprisingly small compass; and they resembled, in the moonlight, confused piles of arms and legs, rather than distinct human forms. They were, however, apparently at ease, and all seemed going on as fairly as could be desired. But the scene was soon to undergo a great and terrible change. About one hour after midnight, the sky began to gather clouds, and a haze overspread the horizon to windward. A squall approached, of which I and others, who had lain down on the deck, received warning by a few heavy drops of rain. Then ensued a scene the horrors of which it is impossible to depict. The hands having to shorten sail suddenly, uncertain as to the force of the squall, found the poor helpless creatures lying about the deck an obstruction to getting at the ropes and doing what was required. This caused the order to send them all below, which was immediately obeyed. The night, however, being intensely hot and close, four hundred wretched beings thus crammed into a hold twelve yards in length, seven in breadth, and only three and a half feet in height, speedily began to make an effort to re-issue to the open air. Being thrust back, and striving the more to get out, the after-hatch was forced down on them. Over the other hatchway, in the fore-part of the vessel, a wooden grating was fastened. To this, the sole inlet for the air, the suffocating heat of the hold, and, perhaps, panic from the strangeness of their situation, made them press; and thus great part of the space below was rendered useless. They crowded to the grating, and, clinging to it for air, completely barred its entrance. They strove to force their way through apertures, in length fourteen inches, and barely six inches in breadth, and, in some instances, succeeded. The cries, the heat,—I may say, without exaggeration, 'the smoke of their torment,'—which ascended, can be compared to nothing earthly. One of the Spaniards gave warning that the consequence would be 'many deaths'—'Manana habrá muchos muertos.'

"Thursday, April 13th (Holy Thursday).—The Spaniard's prediction of last night, this morning was fearfully verified. Fifty-four crushed and mangled corpses, lifted up from the slave-deck, have been brought to the gangway and thrown overboard. Some were emaciated from disease; many, bruised and bloody. Antonio tells me that some were found strangled, their hands still grasping each other's throats, and tongues protruding from their mouths. The bowels of one were crushed out. They had been trampled to death for the most part, the weaker under the feet of the stronger, in the madness and torment of suffocation from crowd and heat. It was a horrid sight, as they passed one by one, the stiff distorted limbs smeared with blood and filth,—to be cast into the sea. Some, still quivering, were laid on the deck to die; salt water thrown on them to revive them, and a little fresh water poured into their mouths. Antonio reminded me of his last night's warning, 'Ya se lo dixé anoche.' He actively employed himself, with his comrade Sebastian, in attendance on the wretched living beings now released from their confinement below; distributing to

them their morning meal of 'farinha,' and their allowance of water, rather more than half a pint to each, which they grasped with inconceivable eagerness, some bending their knees to the deck, to avoid the risk of losing any of the liquid by unsteady footing, their throats, doubtless, parched to the utmost with crying and yelling through the night."

The interlarding of his account with scraps of Spanish, or Portuguese, is a silly affectation in the writer; and his little bit of Puseyism, lugged in by head and shoulders, is out of place, and in no better taste (p. 62).

Day after day, and night after night, the doomed vessel goes on, laden with misery and death.

"May-day, which, in our climate, brings on the sunny hours, in this hemisphere marks the approach of the cold. The naked negroes begin already to shiver, and their teeth to chatter. This is a new infliction added to the former calamities to which this unhappy race is doomed.

*Ora terra addio dirmi,
'He via in agost' aglio.'*

Greek, and Latin, and French, and African, too, as well as Spanish and Portuguese; surely there be learning enough in this small volume! But, May 3d, "We feel the cold now severely. Seven negroes were found dead this morning—among them a girl."

"May 5.—The 'Capitão Pequeno,' who bears also the Portuguese name of 'Luiz,' came quietly to me this evening, and said, 'Senhor, estão roubando aguardiente abaixo'—'They are stealing brandy below.' I could not comprehend how this could be, as all the brandy in the hold had been started at the commencement of the voyage, to prevent mischief. Having reported it to the lieutenant, I accompanied the two Spaniards to the slave-deck, and surprised a large party of the negroes, busily drawing up, by means of old rags, as usual, the contents of two barrels. One of these proved to be of water, and another smaller one, which Luiz supposed to be aguardiente, contained vinegar. Summary punishment was inflicted on eight, who were taken in the fact. They received by moonlight about eighteen lashes each, and were coupled in shackles previously to being sent back into the hold. Thus, as in many other fine beginnings, the end but ill corresponds with the 'early promise.' The sound of knocking off their irons, which thrilled so musically on the ear when we boarded the prize, terminates in the clang of rivetting them on again, with the accompaniment of flogging. The result of their offence is certainly highly provoking, when, as is sometimes the case, instead of pure water, we draw up from the casks their putrid rags; on the other hand, none can tell, save he who has tried, the pangs of thirst which may excite them in that heated hold, many of them fevered by mortal disease. Their daily allowance of water is about half a pint in the morning, and the same quantity in the evening, which is as much as can be afforded them."

Sometimes, whilst flogging the delinquents in the morning, the corpses of a happier body of their comrades were brought up from below and committed to the motherly sea. At length, notwithstanding the numbers removed by death, the atmosphere became so putrid throughout the vessel, that we are told—

"Gold lace and silver articles, though kept in drawers or japanned cases, have turned quite black, through this state of the air. In the middle of last night I left my great coat and grass mat, which have, in sailor's phrase, done duty for a bed since I came on board, and went on deck to seek a little relief, but in vain.

There was not a breath of wind: nothing in apparent motion in sea or air, or the heaven, except the huge albatross, with wings extending sixteen feet, wheeling round and round, sometimes sweeping so close as almost to touch the taffrail, on which I was seated. I returned below, and heaping the cover of a large tea-pot with tobacco, ignited and blew away at it, till the poor sick man, whom we have taken into our cabin, complained that I was 'stifling' him. Disorder, I think, in every sense, is on the increase among the unhappy blacks. During the late fine weather, they have spent the sunny hours of the day on deck; but when below, their cries are incessant day and night. Thinned as their numbers are by death, there is no longer narrowness of room; but increasing sickness and misery make the survivors more hard and unfeeling, and they fight and bruise one another more than formerly. Little Catùla, the finest among them, who received a bite in the leg about six weeks since, getting continual blows and knocks, the wound has now become a deep spreading ulcer. Another fine intelligent lad has been lately severely bitten in the head. Others have the heel, the great toe, the ankle-joint, nearly bitten through; and worse injuries than these, too savage to mention, have been inflicted. Madness, the distraction of despair, seems to possess them."

Some of this reminds us of Coleridge's Ancient Mariner; but we will dwell on this dismal story no longer. Suffice it to note that (50 having been taken on board the *Cleopatra*) 222 were landed from the *Progresso*, 175 having perished in the fifty days! On reaching the shore the poor emaciated wretches appeared more terrified, and apprehensive of being eaten by the white men, than ever; and though the remnant got more reconciled to their fate, a number of additional deaths were added to the appalling list of casualties which occurred whilst they were at sea.

We have only to notice that, on a visit on the African coast, they "met a chief of the Macoa tribe, from about two hundred miles in the interior, who had brought some gold-dust and ivory for Azevedo. He and his train had very little clothing among them; their arms and legs ornamented with rings of hippopotamus-hide. Having been put in spirits by a distribution of brandy, they performed a dance, as void of grace and agility as all other negro-dances that I have seen; accompanying the exhibition by clapping their hands, and a most discordant vocal chorus, the same, Azevedo told me, which they use when they go to hunt the hippopotamus, and well calculated to astonish the animal, if that be their object. In return for this entertainment, two or three musical boxes were set a-playing, with which the 'Black Prince' was so much pleased, that he offered to give four of his attendants for one of them."

Truly, men and liberty are valued here. Four human beings for a toy!

LIEUT. OUCHTERLONY'S CHINESE WAR.

(Second notice.)

At a joss-house near Chapoo a division of Tartars, driven from the field, made a most resolute defence, and twice or thrice repelled their assailants with loss:—

"Upwards of three hours had now elapsed since the first shot was fired, and during all this time, though hemmed in, their retreat effectually cut off, and exposed to a continued fire of shot, rockets, and musketry, no token of submission or disposition to surrender had been wrung from the Tartars. But now the resolution of some

amongst them appeared to be giving way, as small parties of two and three every now and then sallied through the entrance, and made a dash to escape down the valley towards the harbour; but as the British detachment had been considerably augmented by stragglers coming in, the men were too widely spread to admit of their getting away, and the firing which these attempts brought down upon the luckless fugitives suffered scarcely one of them to succeed. It was now resolved to set fire to the building; and a second breach having been blown in the opposite side, some wood was collected, and a fire kindled, which soon spread to the roof, composed of dry, light pine rafters and beams, and in a short time the house was reduced to ruins. Some fifteen or sixteen of the enemy, who became exposed by the throwing down of a portion of the outer wall, were destroyed by a volley from without; and on our troops being at length suffered to enter within the smoking and shattered walls, they found that all resistance had ceased. But few of the Tartars were bayoneted after the joss-house had been carried; and the survivors, most of whom were found crouching on the ground, with their arms folded, and their matchlocks and swords laid aside, in evident expectation of a violent death, and with a manifest resolution to meet it as became men, were taken out and shortly after set at liberty. Of the whole body, however, who had originally taken post in the fatal joss-house, only sixty were made prisoners, many of them wounded, all the rest having been shot, bayoneted, or burned in the fire which consumed the building: the last must have been the fate of many of the wounded, whose forms, writhing in the agonies of so frightful a death, were seen by the troops outside, who were unable to afford them succour. The circumstances, so novel in their character, which rendered this affair with the Tartar troops prominent among the remarkable occurrences of the year 1842, had the effect of exalting them in no slight degree in the estimation of the British, who could not but think with respect of men who, though totally unaccustomed to and unpractised in modern warfare, and doubtless brought now for the first time under the fire of artillery and musketry, could yet maintain to the last such steady coolness and indomitable valour."

In the march on Shang-hae, we are told:

"The inhabitants of the villages which were passed in the route lined the road to gaze with wonder on the novel sight, especially at the imposing exhibition of field-pieces fully equipped, drawn by horses of a size and strength which must have been heretofore considered fabulous in these provinces, where nothing larger than the stunted Tartar pony is ever seen; but so little fear did the country-people testify of our troops, when they found the most perfect discipline prevail in their ranks as they marched past their houses and gardens, that before the column had advanced a couple of miles the heavy scaling-ladders had been transferred by the sappers to the shoulders of willing, or, at least, not dissentient natives, and the drag-ropes of the guns, where an obstacle in the road rendered it necessary to unyoke the horses, were manned with Chinese labourers, mingled with our artillerymen; and their merry laugh, as one of their number chanced to lose his hold and roll over, sounded as careless and joyous as if they were amusing themselves with their fellows of the village, instead of aiding in dragging against the city of their rulers those terrible engines, from which, on the appearance of Chinese troops in occupation of their villages

and houses, ruin and death to all they held most dear would be poured forth."

In the city:—"One large detachment was quartered in a pawnbroker's shop, very different in style and extent to the well-known houses designated in England by the armorial bearings of the ancient Lombards, but in all other respects resembling them so closely as to render the comparison exceedingly amusing. In China the business of the pawnbroker is usually carried on with the capital of a number of persons, who form together a sort of bank, or joint-stock concern, which is described by those acquainted with their operation as most lucrative and extensive in all parts of the empire. The building consists usually of a long range of galleries or rooms, in which the pledged articles are ranged or assorted according to their description and value, every cloak, or fur, or ornament, having a ticket attached to it, denoting the amount lent upon its deposit, also the period for which pledged, and the interest to be recovered. The quantity of goods collected in these establishments, judging from those which came under the observation of the force (and a very destructive observation it usually proved), is enormous. Wearing apparel of all descriptions constituted the bulk of the stock of this Shang-hae concern; and as it had to be cleared out of the way to make room for the soldiers, grievous havoc was of necessity made among the strange collection of odds and ends of which it consisted. Rich furred mantles and embroidered ladies' crape dresses were heaped up to form a couch for some brawny dragon, whose costume had been culled from heaps of pledges, the detail of which defies all power of description: a handsome blue button mandarin's cap, decorated with the honour-bestowing peacock's feathers, might be seen surmounting the bronzed visage of some hardy Briton, its abrupt redemption and new ownership being attested by the stumpy blackened tobacco-pipe stuck through an extempore hole in its rich silk cover—the hands of its new proprietor, perhaps, emerging from the folds of a delicate silk mantle, the said hands being still red from the deed they had just done, in assisting at the sudden demise of a hen, whose mortal remains were being converted into a savoury grill by means of the broken legs and ornaments of a carved satin-wood chair and some lighted paper, torn from a book, perhaps of inestimable value; and furthermore the said hands might be afterwards seen undergoing the detergent process upon the skirt of a robe which erst had graced the form of a high priest of Fo! Shocking, indeed, to the antiquarian, the geographer, and the lover of science and *vertu*, were the destruction and spoliation entailed by these promiscuous quarterings of the troops in the towns successively occupied; for although in cases where, as at Shang-hae, no resistance had been offered, they abstained from plunder (or *loot*, which is its popular *nom de guerre*) in such of the private dwellings as were left untouched by the quarter-master-general, the contents of the houses in which their billets had chanced to establish them were always looked upon as the lawful property of the new incumbents, and treated accordingly, that is to say, carried off as legitimate 'loot,' if the means of transport were available, and if not, 'used up' in all sorts of ways. In this manner must have been destroyed many hundreds of books, which, could they have been collected and preserved until the return of peace allowed their contents to be translated and explained by native linguists, might have thrown much valuable light upon

the history and present state of Chinese literature, geography, and fine arts—upon all, indeed, that is of interest, connected with this wonderful empire. Couches used to be made with the torn-up leaves of books, fires fed with them, rooms cleaned with swabs made of them—all sorts of horrors, in short, were perpetrated with these precious pages; and excepting by the very few, who had no regular and urgent duties to attend to, and could always command means of transport, very few can have been preserved in an entire and available form. In most of the towns, however, which were temporarily occupied by the British, much property, valuable for its rarity as well as its intrinsic worth, was of necessity left behind, and of course abandoned to the gangs of Chinese marauders which always hung upon our rear when the evacuation of a city was going on. At Shang-hae, however, the tenants-at-will of the pawnbroker's shop hit upon an ingenious expedient for converting into specie the collection of 'pledges,' which, though easy of acquisition, were, like others of a different description, exceedingly difficult to be provided for. The house was not far from the ramparts, in an adjacent angle of which there stood an old guard-room, or watch-tower; this they converted into a depot for silk cloaks and petticoats; and having soon attracted a group of Chinamen to the foot of the walls, they established a regular bazaar, lowering down their merchandise in bales for inspection and tender, and then chaffering for a good price with great skill and acumen. The writer of these pages, when walking outside the city walls, chanced to stumble upon this droll and novel scene, and though not exactly able to admire its leading features, he could not avoid being highly diverted. The 'representatives' of the pawnbrokers' association had, it appeared, reposed too implicit a confidence in the good faith of their customers below, by lowering down the articles for sale to be examined before a bid was made; and some of these gentry had more than once most unscrupulously ended a dispute about price by decamping with the goods from under the very noses of their pseudo-owners. In consequence of this 'discreditable' proceeding, it was found necessary, for the good of the 'concern,' to lower the bundles of cloaks, &c., only so far as to admit of an ocular examination by the Chinese, without allowing them the privilege of touching the 'unredeemed;' this measure gave rise to the most absurd scenes;—one Chinaman, on his bid being refused, or on hearing a competitor offer more, would make a desperate spring at the bait, and missing it, would stamp on the ground, and howl forth his rage like a maniac; others might be seen in little mobs, with upturned faces, like the figures in Hood's 'Rocket time at Vauxhall,' vehemently imploring the salesmen above to lower the prize one inch more, that they might but touch it, to ascertain how much it was worth; and when their price was refused, to see the agonised looks with which they followed the bundle in its upward course, was irresistibly laughable. Here, again, another group might be seen, who, having ventured, on speculation, to make a purchase from appearances only, were unfolding the garments which composed it with eager and anxious faces, clapping their hands with joy if their luck proved good, and clenching them in furious menaces against their tormentors if they found the rich silk envelope of their bundle to contain only some threadbare habiliments, or bundles of rags and rubbish. The laughter and the screaming forth of high and low Chinese, of English and Hindostani, and the absurd ap-

pearance of the descending bundles of indescribable, compensated by the ascending dollars, and indeed of the whole scene, which looked like a fishery for men, with ropes and hooks baited with silk cloaks, was much more ludicrous and amusing than can be conceived from this description; and the writer could not help enjoying a laugh when he heard that the Chinamen, unable to settle the question any more by laying violent hands upon the 'pledges,' had tried another and more successful manoeuvre, by sending up in the bag a number of copper dollars, mixed with the silver ones. This was on the last day of the fair, when, from press of time, and the accumulation of lots to be disposed of, the venders were unable to pay proper attention to the quality of the specie returned. In spite of this deduction, they must have realised a very comfortable little sum for men whose pay is so small; and though one could not entirely approve of thus enriching the abandoned and lawless set who generally compose the greater portion of the lower orders of inhabitants in Chinese trading cities by the spoliation of the upper classes, it is reconciled to one's mind by the reflection that all such property would have fallen into the hands of the mob the moment after our rear-guard had disappeared through the city gates, and that it was therefore better to make them pay something for it, than to let them wrangle and fight for it after our departure. The writer was upon the rear-guard when the force was withdrawn from the city, and was forcibly struck with the proof then presented to his observation, that the miseries entailed upon the inhabitants by the actual presence of our troops in the Chinese towns were as nothing when compared with the horrors which ensued upon our withdrawal from them, at the hands of the miscreants who flocked into their streets in crowds from the surrounding country. As regiment after regiment evacuated the various buildings which had been assigned as quarters, and after the rear-guard had seen them cleared of stragglers from the column, and had passed on, the streets, as you looked back, where a few minutes before all seemed desolate and deserted, were now teeming with life, and dark passages and hovels, which had been passed by unnoticed, were now pouring forth multitudes of outcasts, who flocked to the house which had just been abandoned, like birds of prey to a scene of slaughter."

[To be concluded in our next No.]

James of the Hill: a Tale of the Troubles in Scotland, A.D. 1633. By J. A. Cameron, Esq. T. C. Newby.

WRITTEN in broad Scotch dialect, with the exception of a portion of the third, these volumes must doubtless possess more interest for Scotch than English readers. They will be found to present a fair and graphic picture of the troublous times when feud and raid were common amongst the clans. Scottish character is portrayed with much truth. The simple yet acute Laird of Knock—the rebel, Grant of Carron—Saunders Thomson, &c. &c., prove the author to have taken much pains with the whole of his personages, who, whether fictitious or real representatives, are in good keeping. In some passages touching the Laird of Knock there is a good deal of humour; whilst the more grave and often affecting portions are very naturally and therefore effectively told. There is scarcely material enough for three volumes, and the tale accordingly languishes a little towards the end; but the first two will, we think, greatly interest the lovers of nationality.

Honour! a Tale. 1 vol. Saunders and Otley. THE story commences gaily, but terminates most tragically: reprobation of duelling is the theme. We fear that this kind of writing is not calculated to produce the effect so desired by the author, whose style besides is but ordinary. No part of the work rises above, and some passages fall below, mediocrity.

Wit Bought, or the Life and Adventures of Robert Merry. By Peter Parley. Pp. 171. Darton and Clark.

AT page 2 the hero is five years old, and at page 4, six months after, he is seven; which we calculate is an error. A great many American pranks are described, which perhaps had better not have been pointed out for the instruction of youth; but the narrative is lively, and plenty of variety; and there are a number of nice woodcuts.

Cheerful Cherry, &c. Pp. 170. The same. A SIMILAR publication—the moral of which, a good one, is, always to make the best of what happens, and not make it worse by repining and loss of temper.

The Mysteries of Paris. A Novel, by Eugene Sue. Translated by Charles Town, Esq. 8vo, pp. 433, with Sequel of Gerolstein. New York, Harper and Brothers.

IF swindling, entrapping, robbing, poisoning, stabbing, and executing, be the mysteries of Paris, this is a complete revelation of its depravity, and of men and women sunk below the level of brutes, and more wicked than infernal fiends. But it is sadly at war with all our ideas of Parisian police; and at best but a tissue of abominations.

A Lecture on Chastity. By Sylvester Graham, Boston, U.S. Pp. 149. London, Strange.

UNFIT for publication, and proceeding from a society called the Concordists. The only thing we can mention in it with approbation is, that it recommends fruit-rooms, elegant and well-provided throughout the year, instead of tobacco-divans and tipping resorts. It also distinctly (more distinctly than writers of any other and more decorous order can do) points out the horrors which spring from the prison-system of solitary confinement.

Letters and Extracts from the MS. Writings of J. P. Greaves. Vol. I. 8vo, pp. 298.

IS another issue from the Concordium; but of Ham Common. It beats Bentham in new-coined words, Emmanuel Swedenborg in mysticism, and Mr. Owen in projection for the improvement of the human race. Poor Greaves, who is dead, was a weak, well-meaning enthusiast; and the author, Mr. A. Campbell, has succeeded him at Ham, where *The New Age* is edited, and "printing, tailoring, and shoemaking, carefully executed upon equitable terms!!"

The Year Ninety-Eight. 4to. Pp. 17. London, P. Richardson.

A VARIORUM in Irish affairs—the rebellion of '98 in verse, and a glorification of the battle of the Nile, which freed Britain from the dangers of an almost universal coalition. The bard denounces the songs of the Nation, and other repeal organs, and prays:

"Oh, may Erin evermore
Escape the sin and fate
That blots the page of history
In the year ninety-eight!"

Amen.

Sermons. By R. Ward, M.A., Skipton. Pp. 236. Leeds, Green; London, Rivingtons.

A VERY laudable volume, and well calculated to be useful far beyond the limits of the preacher's locality.

The Botany of the Voyage of H. M. S. Sulphur, Capt. Sir E. Becher, R.N., C.B., &c. Edited by the Surgeon, R. B. Hinds, Esq.; the Botanical Descriptions by G. Bentham, Esq. 4to. London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

THIS is truly a rich and valuable contribution to botanical science. Lower California has supplied numerous examples of a flora hitherto unknown—the connecting link between north-west and tropical vegetation. The plates are executed with equal fidelity and beauty.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

Feb. 23.—“On the light thrown on geology by submarine research,” by Prof. E. Forbes. About the middle of the last century, Donati, and after him Soldani, sought to explain the order and distribution of organic remains in the tertiary rocks of Italy by an exploration of the present bed of the Adriatic Sea. The instrument they employed in their researches was the common oyster-dredge; and the results they obtained were very important. Since their time, very little has been done in the same line of research. The object of Prof. Forbes's communication was to make known the conclusions bearing on geology to which he had come, by pursuing the path opened by the Italian naturalists.

The chief points touched upon were the following:—1. Animals and plants do not live indifferently in all depths, but certain species are inhabitants of certain depths only, and thus the bed of the sea presents a series of zones or regions, each having a peculiar fauna and flora of its own. The same phenomenon seems to have prevailed in the seas of ancient states of the earth; and by working it out, we shall eventually be able to pronounce on the probable depth at which any given stratum was deposited. 2. The number of species diminishes as we descend, the deeper zones having fewest species. Vegetables eventually disappear; and Prof. Forbes is inclined to believe, from the small number of animal species at the greatest depths which he explored, that the zero of animal life in the Ægean is at a depth of about 300 fathoms. It will vary, of course, in the seas of various climates. All sedimentary deposits below that zero will be free from organic remains; and as the greater mass of sedimentary deposits is forming below it, the strata formed will be afossiliferous. Hence, in geology, we must not infer a deficiency or absence of animals in the primeval seas in which the great slates, &c., rarely containing fossils, were formed; but rather, that such beds were formed in very deep water. 3. The proportion of northern testacea in the lower zones greatly exceeds that in the upper; so that we have a representation of climates or parallels of latitude in depth. This fact warns the geologist of the danger of drawing climatal inferences from the organic contents of rocks, unless the element of depth be taken into his calculations. 4. Every species of marine animal is adapted to live on a particular kind of sea-bottom. When a bed of mollusca, &c., shall have increased so as to change the sea-bottom, then those mollusca die out, and the species do not reappear until a fresh deposit of sediment admits of their presence. This fact affords a simple explanation of the alternation of fossiliferous and afossiliferous strata. 5. Such animals as are common to many zones of depth have usually a wide geographic distribution also, and are generally such species as have lived longest in time. This explains why, in all for-

mations, we find the most generally distributed fossils such as are also found in several successive formations. Prof. Forbes has found that many mollusca, even among the most fixed species, migrate. They migrate in their young or larva state, when it would appear that all marine animals are free swimmers, whatever their after-habits may be. Thus all mollusca with spiral univalve shells, and all nudibranchii, appear to begin their lives in a form closely resembling that permanent among the pteropoda. But though in a larva-state they are capable of living in any zone or region, they do not develop themselves into perfect animals except in that particular zone or region of which the perfect animal is a member. Thus the fixity of the zones is secured, and the correctness of the preceding inferences confirmed.

Prof. Forbes concluded by pointing out how remarkably certain views put forth, from geological evidences only, by Mr. Lyell, Sir Henry de la Beche, Count D'Archiene, and M. de Verneuil, were borne out by the facts developed during his submarine researches.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 26.—Mr. Murchison, president, in the chair. A letter was read from Chev. Schomburgk, dated Demerara, January 16, by which it appears that he had suffered from the sudden transition from his active life, during his late explorations, to sedentary labours, since his return to Demerara. To regain health, therefore, he had started up the Essequibo, to the junction of that river with Maszazuni and Curguni, the site of her majesty's penal settlement. In this excursion he had ascertained the latitudes of the more remarkable points, the progress of the tidal wave, the velocity of sound, and taken from 800 to 900 soundings. He further states having observed, since the 12th of January, the luminous part of a comet very low in the horizon, between the stars α Argus and α Eridani; the nucleus, however, was not seen, and the position of the comet was probably too low to be visible in England.—The secretary then read a short account of the regency of Tripoli, in the west, by Colonel Warrington, her majesty's consul-general in that country. The port of Tripoli is described as tolerably good for vessels of 800 tons, and is capable of great improvement; the soil in the neighbourhood extremely fertile; vegetables of all kinds are produced; dates are the staple food, besides which, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, figs, almonds, &c. are indigenous. Exotic fruits do not thrive here. Near the mountains the herbage is luxuriant in the winter, and capable of supporting millions of sheep. An unusual quantity of rain (25 inches) had fallen from October 1841 to April 1842, but not more at any time than $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 24 hours. The temperature in the shade had never been above 94° , or below 40° Fahr. The town of Tripoli contains 1200 Turks and Moors, about 1500 Christians, and 200 Jews. The population of the whole regency may be estimated at 1,500,000, of whom 200,000 are capable of bearing arms. The climate is considered by the consul, who has resided there more than twenty-seven years, the best in the world, and the people live to a great age. Agriculture is in the most primitive state; the ground is barely scratched by a light plough drawn by a camel, and the grain thrown in; from this they reap thirty for one. The Arabs here have the same virtues and vices for which they are generally known. The revenue of the regency, at the time the account was written, was about 300,000 dollars; but when the Arabs

are at peace it is much greater. Among the items which compose it is a tax on murders, producing 30,000 dollars, or about 60 murders at 500 dollars each. The exports of Tripoli are, olive-oil, madder-root, saffron, senna, skins, ostrich-feathers, bullocks, and red pepper; from the interior, gold-dust, ivory, ostrich-feathers, choice gums, indigo, skins of wild and domestic animals, tronna (natron), senna, &c. The quantity of sulphur is inexhaustible: the cultivation of the vine is increasing rapidly, and a flourishing trade in wine might be established. Labour and good government are alone wanting to the production of unbounded wealth, to the progress of civilisation, and the abolition of slavery. Colonisation by Christians or Turks is impossible; but there exists a good feeling towards the English, who could easily establish and derive an immense benefit from [commercial relations with Tripoli.—The business of the evening concluded by an account of the course of the river Hawash, and its termination in the lake Ablubbad, by Mr. Charles Johnstone. This river runs along the south-eastern foot of the great Abyssinian plateau, from the scarp of which it receives all its tributaries. On approaching the lake, the bend of the river is cut off by a canal, thus forming the island of Oussa: the lake is without outlet, and is about six miles in diameter. The country is every where volcanic; and Mr. Johnstone thinks it is still undergoing changes from the effect of subterranean forces.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Feb. 21.—The president, Mr. Warburton, in the chair.—The following papers were read:—1. “Some account of the strata observed in the course of the Blechingly tunnel, Surrey, in the year 1841,” by Mr. Simms. The tunnel was carried through a spur of a range of hills formed by the escarpment of the lower green sand. In the line of the cuttings the spur consisted chiefly of weald clay, and proved to form part of an anticlinal axis which extends across the weald, from the chalk of the North Downs in Surrey, between Mersham and Garlstone, to the chalk of the South Downs in Sussex, near Ditchling.—2. “Some remarks on the white limestone of Corfu and Vido,” by Capt. Portlock. The author has found fossils in this limestone at Vido. They are very locally distributed, ammonites in one place, and terebratulæ in another; the former in bad condition, the latter very perfect. They appear to be nearly allied to *T. pala* and *T. re-supinata*, oolitic species, and to a species from Dundry. Capt. Portlock regards them as new, and names the species *T. Seatonii*, and infers from their presence that the limestone in question is probably oolitic.—3. “Remarks on *Sternbergia*,” by Mr. J. S. Dawes. The author considers the fossils of this anomalous genus of extinct vegetables as merely casts of the medullary cavities of exogenous trees, similar to that at Darlston lately described. The transverse plates which compose the interior of some of these bodies he considers as agreeing with the laminae of pith, and the rings on the external surface of others as produced by the same cause. He described specimens where the so-called *Sternbergia* formed the centre pith or fossil stems.—4. “On a fossil crustacean from New Holland,” by Prof. T. Bell. This, the only fossil crustacean as yet found in Australia, was procured by Lieut. Emery, and forwarded by Mr. W. S. Macleary, who considered it as probably a *Thalassina*. Prof. Bell regards it as a new *Thalassina*, nearly allied to the only known living species of that genus, and names it *T. antiqua*.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.

February 13.—Mr. G. Rennie in the chair. A paper by Mr. J. Grantham described a series of experiments on an iron vessel called the "Liverpool screw." This boat was 65 ft. long, 12 ft. 6 in. beam, and had 3 ft. 9 in. draught of water; she was propelled by two high-pressure oscillating engines, with cylinders 13 in. diameter and 18 in. stroke; the pressure of the steam in the boiler varied from 50 to 60 lbs. per square inch, and it was cut off at one-fourth of the length of the stroke, working the remainder by expansion; the nominal power was 20 horses, but it did not really exceed 18½ horses. The cylinders were placed diagonally, with both the piston-rods working upon the same crank, the driving shaft being beneath the cylinders and running direct to the propeller without the intervention of either gearing or bands. The screw-propeller was enlarged three times, and at last was left at 5 ft. 4 in. diameter by 20 in. in length; it was set out with a pitch expanding from 10 to 11 feet, on Woodcroft's plan; it was made of wrought iron, with four short arms with broad shovel-ends, whose united area was 16 square feet, 13 feet only of it being immersed, as some portion of the arms was constantly above the water; the angle of the centre of the float was 45°; the speed of the propeller was generally 95 revolutions per minute. With these dimensions, the speed attained was described as 10½ statute miles per hour. The amount of slip of the screw in the water as ascertained by Massey's log was stated not to exceed 5 per cent. Several experiments were detailed, which showed that there was not more tendency to "list," or to turn round by the action of the screw, than with paddle-wheels, and the vessel was said to have excelled all the other steamers in the port of Liverpool in towing out vessels in a rough sea. Designs were submitted on this principle for a steam frigate, and for large steamers, working with oscillating cylinders direct upon the main shaft. In the animated discussion which ensued, the various forms and modifications of screw-propellers and their relative merits were very ably treated by a number of speakers.

A model was exhibited by permission of Sir H. T. De la Beche, from the Museum of Economic Geology, shewing all the kinds of valves used in the pumps for draining the Cornish mines, and the merits and defects of the various kinds were very ably explained and commented upon by Mr. Jordan, under whose directions the model was constructed. Mr. John Taylor gave an historical sketch of the introduction of the various improvements, the causes which led to them, and the effects they had produced.

The meetings of the 20th and 27th, were, the first entirely, the second chiefly, occupied with renewed discussions on the screw propellers, and the valves for pumps. The paper read on the 27th was a description, by Mr. Rhodes, of a bridge built of cast-iron girders, upon timber piles, having a swivel bridge at one extremity, with an opening of 40 feet span, through which the navigation of the river was carried on. The total length of the bridge, exclusive of the width of Hayes Island, was stated to be 558 feet 6 inches; it stretches across the river Shannon, at Portumna, by 13 openings of 20 feet each, from the Tipperary shore to Hayes Island, which is in the centre of the river, and thence, by 12 openings of a similar span, and a swivel bridge of 40 feet span, to the Galway shore. The construction, which was executed from the designs of Mr. Rhodes, under the direction of the Commissioners of the Public

Works for Ireland, was minutely described, and was illustrated by some elaborate drawings, shewing every detail of the works, which were stated to have cost 24,131l.

The following papers were announced to be read at the next meeting:—"Description of the bridge over the river Whitadder at Allanton," by J. T. Syme. "Description of a cast and wrought-iron trussed girder for bridges, with a series of experiments on their strength," by F. Nash. "Account of the building of the Wellington Bridge over the river Aire, at Leeds," by J. Timperley.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Jan. 1.—Mr. G. Newport, president, in the chair. Various donations to the library were announced, and thanks returned to the donors thereof. Extracts were read from letters addressed to the Rev. F. W. Hope, by Dr. Savage, from the Gold-Coast, Africa, and by Mr. Fortnam, of Adelaide, N. S. W. The former contained a notice of a new and splendid species of Goliath beetle discovered by the writer; and in the second was given an account of the entomology of South Adelaide, and some particulars relative to the process of reproduction of the limbs in some of the *Phasmide*. An extract of a letter from Col. Hearsey, addressed to the secretary, was also read, giving an account of the habits of the singular Indian genus of *Diptera* named *Diopsis*. A paper was read by the secretary containing descriptions of some new sacred beetles brought home by the recent expedition in Southern Africa, undertaken at the expense of the Earl of Derby.

Jan. 22.—This was the anniversary meeting, when the council and officers for the ensuing year were appointed, and an address delivered by the president, which has since been printed for distribution.

Feb. 5.—The president in the chair. Some very fine Goliath beetles were exhibited by Mr. Rich, and also a large collection of *Lepidoptera*, formed by Mr. Barnston near the Albany River, in North America, remarkable for the apparent identity of a very great number of the species with English forms. The president exhibited a specimen of *Hypena rostralis* which he had kept alive without food since the 1st of September. Mr. Bond exhibited a specimen of the small white garden butterfly which had been captured during the preceding week; and Mr. Walton a singular monstrosity occurring in *Otiorynchus picipes*. A letter from Dr. Savage, addressed to the secretary, was read, giving an account of his new species of Goliath beetle; and the following memoirs were read: "Description of a genus of *Diptera*, new to the British lists," by Mr. Desvignes; "Descriptions of some new exotic *Lucanide*," by the secretary; "Descriptions of some new species of *Parastasia*," by Prof. Erichson of Berlin. Also a correspondence relative to the action of insects in deteriorating manure, which led to a extended discussion. The president stated that the Rev. F. W. Hope purposed offering two prizes of 5l. 5s., one for the best essay on the natural history and medical properties of the blister-fly; and the other upon a subject to be announced at the next meeting.

A New Constant Battery.—M. le Prince Pierre Bagration has invented a new and simple constant galvanic battery, the particulars of which have been communicated by M. Jacobi to the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg. Its elements are zinc, copper, and sal ammoniac; common earth saturated with the latter acting

as a porous diaphragm. A plate of copper and a plate of zinc, placed at a distance the one from the other in a flowerpot, or any other water-tight vessel, filled with earth saturated with a concentrated solution of sal ammoniac, form a voltaic pair, whose action will, after a short time, continue constant, and be maintained for whole months, and, to every appearance, for years; the only care necessary being from time to time to remoisten the earth and renew the zinc. Before putting the copper plate into the earth, it should be plunged for some minutes in a solution of sal ammoniac and then left to dry, until it receive a greenish coating. This operation renders the effect of the battery much more prompt; and in regard to it, brass may be preferable to copper. The plates should not be too near to each other, nor too small, because the earth opposes great resistance to the current.

This form of battery is susceptible of many applications, but it will chiefly be useful where a constant and prolonged action, rather than energetic effect, is required—as, for example, in the reduction of metals, chemical decomposition, &c. It may be extended, however, to any quantity or intensity. Whenever a series of numerous elements be used, the vessels should be well insulated. M. Jacobi has had one of these sal-ammoniac batteries of twenty-four elements in action for six weeks, without the necessity of making the least change in it.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb. 21.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Doctor in Divinity.—H. Almack, late fellow of St. John's College.

Honorary Master of Arts.—E. A. Brooks, Clare Hall. Bachelors of Arts.—A. Haslop, F. F. Pinder, C. J. Willoughby, Trinity College; P. A. Hurt, St. John's College; T. L. French, Emmanuel College; H. V. Pickering, Pemb. College; W. Sandford, Clare Hall.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

Feb. 8.—The foreign secretary read a memoir "On the *Tabulae Eugubinae*, or Eugubian Tables," by Mr. Millington. The celebrated monuments known by this name, facsimiles of which have lately been published by the learned Dr. Lepsius, are inscriptions engraved on plates of brass; and are so called because they were discovered at a village near Gubbio, or Eugubio, anciently *Iguvium*, and one of the principal cities of Umbria: among the public archives of this city they have been preserved four hundred years.

Of the inscriptions, seven in all, five, being in characters long unknown, gave rise to a variety of speculations: they were successively supposed to be Egyptian, Punic, Æolic, ancient Greek, and finally Etruscan, or Umbrian; this last opinion being that which time and mature investigation have proved to be correct. The remaining two are in Latin characters.

Respecting the more difficult point—the contents of these inscriptions—the learned have not been brought so readily to agree. An account of various opinions held by a host of writers—Buonarrotti, Bourguet, Gori, Bardetti, Maffei, and others—is given by Lanzi in his *Essay on the Etruscan Language*: all of whom that cautious and judicious critic surpassed in this investigation, by satisfactorily shewing that the inscriptions all relate to the proceedings of an assembly of deputies from the various cities and districts of the Umbrian confederacy, who meet to treat of political affairs, but chiefly for the purpose of offering sacrifices in the temple of Jupiter Apenninus.

Every effort of the most eminent philologists to throw light on the language of the ancient Etruscans having hitherto failed, Mr. Millingen did not propose, in the present memoir, to pursue that design: his object was, on the contrary, to show that—as far, at least, as regards these monuments—it never can be understood, because these remains of it were originally composed with the intention of being unintelligible.

We meet, in ancient authors, with frequent references to a language existing among the Greeks, Romans, and Etruscans, of a mysterious and, as was pretended, divine nature, which was employed in religious ceremonies, in private devotions, and for charms or spells. The writer referred, for instances in support of his argument, to the well-known passage in the *Iliad*, in which we are told that the river which mortals called Scamander was named by the gods Xanthus; to the assertion of Macrobius, that the sacred name of Rome, as well as that of the divinity who was its special protector, was kept inviolably secret; but particularly, as throwing great light on these inscriptions, to the work of Cato the Censor, *De Re Rustica*, in which a charm or incantation, in a similar recondite jargon, is given as a remedy for a distortion or sprain; and lastly, to the remains of the hymns of the Salii and Frates Arvales, which present manifest specimens of this ancient mystic dialect. The inscriptions at Eugubio are precisely of the same nature: as these last—a kind of litanies or prayers used by the Frates Ateriates, a sacerdotal order, probably similar to the Salii and Arvales, but of whom we find no account.

From the concurrent employment of the two alphabets and languages, Mr. Millingen concludes that the inscriptions are to be referred to a date not earlier than the year of Rome 600, when the ancient languages of Italy were gradually declining, while the Latin was rapidly becoming prevalent. The object of employing concurrently both languages appears, the writer observed, to have been to satisfy the two different classes of the population—the Umbrian and the Latin.

The Umbrian and Etruscan characters and language were intrinsically the same, and were also common to the Sabines, Oscans, Samnites, and to all the upper part of Italy. The name of Tyrrhenian, given to the country of the Umbrians by the Pelasgi Tyrrheni (who took possession of it while migrating from Greece in search of a settlement), was, after their departure, corrupted into that of Etrurian and Tuscan, and the inhabitants were called Etrusci and Tusci.

Mr. Millingen concluded a very learned and ingenious paper with remarks on the general use of magic in the ancient pagan religions; and with proofs from Clemens Alexandrinus, Jamblicus, Epiphanius, and Pliny, that those magical rites were accompanied by the use of the secret language, sometimes adopted for the purpose of fraud and imposture.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Feb. 15.—Lord Mahon in the chair. A rubbing of a commemorative engraved slab representing St. Louis, king of France, and several antiquities and drawings, were exhibited. Sir Henry Ellis read a document relating to a project for amending the sewerage of London in 1605. Mr. Bateman communicated an account of the opening of some barrows in Derbyshire in 1843.

Feb. 22.—Mr. Hamilton in the chair. Mr. W. Staunton exhibited an original appointment by letters patent of the Duke of Somerset as

Protector to Edward VI.; and Mr. J. G. Nicholl communicated a paper on the ancient amity between the Goldsmiths' and Fishmongers' Companies in London, and their participation of coat-armour.

Feb. 29.—Mr. Amyot in the chair. A very interesting paper, by Mr. Pettigrew, on the curious subject of the state of medicine in England during the middle ages, was read. Mr. Pettigrew's observations were based on the early English medical poem of the library of Stockholm, recently communicated to the society. English treatises on medicine, or rather collections of medical receipts, are common in manuscripts of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and several were mentioned and described in Mr. Pettigrew's paper. These, he said, were chiefly founded upon the popular Latin poem of the School of Salerno—the *Regimen Sanitatis*, composed in the eleventh century. The Stockholm poem relates chiefly to the virtues of herbs, which had so large a share in the common medicine of the day, and which, in order to be effective, were to be gathered under certain influences of the planets. Belief in the particular effects of certain positions of the celestial bodies, not only in the cure but also in the production of diseases, was common in early times, and prevails at this day in many parts of the world, particularly in the East. A certain knowledge of astronomy, or rather of astrology, was necessary to the physician of antiquity, because he was guided by it in the time and manner of letting blood and other operations. Evil spirits were believed also to exercise an extensive agency in producing diseases, and various methods were employed to drive them away from the patient. Betony, goldflower, pimpernelle, motherwort, vervain, henbane, and other plants, were very efficient for this purpose. Some of the remedies are of a singular nature. For dropsy, thrice-three earth-worms with their heads cut off, immersed in holywater in which sugar or liquorice is to be dissolved, are recommended to be taken daily for nine days. Numerical and other charms are very common in these treatises. Charms were particularly employed against venom, tooth-ache, jaundice, hæmorrhage, fevers, epilepsy, &c.; and Mr. Pettigrew accounts for their being in many cases efficacious through the influence exerted by the mind over the functions of the body, and this efficacy was of course in proportion to the ignorance of the age in which they were used.

THE DUPLICATE ROSETTA STONE.

DR. LEPSIUS's letter to A. Von Humboldt (Korusko, 20th Nov.)* respecting this interesting discovery has been published in the *Universal Prussian Gazette*, and other German periodicals; but the notice of it in the *Literary Gazette* was the first intelligence received at Paris, where it created considerable sensation. M. Letronne, so high an authority on these subjects, has given his opinion in the *Journal des Débats*, where he doubts the finding of this monument at Meroe, as that place was not at the period under the sway of Egypt. This astute criticism is, we are glad to say, founded upon an error on our part, in stating Meroe to be the locality where Dr. Lepsius obtained the Stone. A more circumstantial account has since reached us; and it was at Philæ, in the court of the great temple of Isis, on his way to Meroe, that this literary bilingual treasure was discovered. It contains the whole

* Korusko, on the right bank of the Nile, in Nubia, about twenty-four miles S.W.S. of Syene.

text of the decree in honour of Ptolemy Epiphanes, which the Rosetta Stone exhibits, both in hieroglyphics and enchorial characters. And it has besides another decree, in honour of the same king; but the Greek text has never existed in either of these monuments. This is of little consequence, as it is so nearly complete in the Stone in the British Museum. Dr. Lepsius's letter shows that the Philæ Stone contains nothing beyond what we have mentioned; and therefore not the preamble to the decree of the Rosetta Stone. Dr. L. has collected about four hundred Greek inscriptions in Egypt and Nubia, which he will bring with him to Europe. The Philæ Stone has, we have heard, been already despatched for Berlin.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Entomological, 8 P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 3 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Geological, 8 P.M.
Thursday.—Zoological, 3 P.M.; Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.
Friday.—Astronomical, 8 P.M.; Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.; Philological, 8 P.M.; Medical (anniversary meeting), 8 P.M.
Saturday.—Royal Botanic, 4 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

IMPROVEMENTS OF LONDON.

IN our last *Gazette* we noticed some of the improvements of the metropolis being carried into effect at the West-End; and have now the pleasure to describe a design which we trust to see speedily adopted and completed in another quarter. It is called *Albert Park*, and consists of a plan for an extensive park at Kennington Common, and on the adjoining lands of the Duchy of Cornwall and the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, prepared by Mr. Newman, the architect; and if supported by the Government will prove of the utmost importance in this extensive and populous neighbourhood, and for the recreation and health of the public.

The park is proposed to extend over nearly 200 acres, surrounded by spacious and good roads, with deep arched sewers for the effective drainage of the neighbourhood. The site is to be laid out with convenient roads, agreeable plantations and walks, cricket-grounds, with portions for detached residences, terraces for buildings, and other graceful adjuncts, appropriate to the neighbourhood. The Zoological Gardens form an important feature in the design: it also exhibits a great extent of ornamental water, introduced from the Grand Surrey Canal, which is already brought up very near to the contemplated site. There is in this design every thing that will conduce to render it attractive to the population of London; and if supported by the legislature will not only be remunerative, but be carrying out the laudable endeavours to effect every improvement for the benefit of the people. The principal entrance is designed to be opposite the Kennington Road, by an appropriate architectural gateway, to be called *Albert Gate*, and forms an attractive feature in the design.

Should the Grand Surrey Canal be continued to Vauxhall, according to the original plan of the company, it would be well for the proprietors, increase the value of the land on the sides of the canal for buildings and wharfs, improve their revenues, and cause the removal of considerable traffic from the river, as the craft would avoid the collision in the Pool below

London Bridge, and navigate to Deptford by the canal without waiting for the tides. The Regent and Victoria Parks have received the sanction of parliament; and with the assistance of the Duchy of Cornwall, the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, and other owners of the land, this important design will be worthy of the present times, and particularly acceptable to the county of Surrey.

SOCIETY FOR OBTAINING FREE ADMISSION TO NATIONAL MONUMENTS.

At the meeting last Saturday the first proceeding was, to communicate his Royal Highness Prince Albert's gracious reply to the application for his patronage, as president of the society, &c., in place of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Sussex. The answer was that, cordially approving the general objects of the society, his Royal Highness would cheerfully afford it his countenance and support; but would prefer the title of patron to that of president, as he always does when it may not be in his power to attend constantly to the proceedings of any public association. The next business was the re-election of the officers of the society, with certain additions. A recapitulation of the progress of free exhibitions and the general state of institutions in the kingdom, and the great desire for an extension of the advantages so fully appreciated, led to resolutions for various proposals and improvements to be attempted in this year. After a general expression of satisfaction, the meeting was adjourned till the 23d of March, when some interesting information is expected from a sub-committee appointed for an especial purpose.

In the course of observations, the formation of the new "Association for the encouragement and prosecution of Researches into the Arts and Monuments of the Early and Middle Ages" was received with marked approbation. (See account of it in *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1413.)

The Monumental Effigies of the Temple Church, with an Account of their Restoration in 1842. By E. Richardson, Sculptor. Folio, pp. 32. London, Longman and Co.; Oxford, Parker; Cambridge, Stevenson.

MR. RICHARDSON, having been employed in the restoration of these very interesting monuments of ancient times, has, after ably discharging his duty to his Templar employers, rendered an acceptable public service by giving us correct drawings of the effigies, so as to preserve every feature of their military costumes, and adequate descriptions of their origin, localities, and bearings, in regard to other classes of society, and the age in which these remarkable soldiers flourished.

The Temple Church was a favourite site for everlasting repose to many who had troubled the world enough whilst living, as well as to many equally distinguished and less turbulent individuals. Of the actual knights an excellent account is furnished in their history by Mr. G. C. Addison (reviewed in the *Literary Gazette*, No. 1300), to which we would refer; and also to Stow's *London* (1598), where he mentions eleven monuments, five lying cross-legged, and three straight-legged armed knights (another was afterwards discovered), and the other three coped stones of grey marble. Mr. Richardson briefly discusses the various antiquarian opinions which have since been published concerning these relics, and doubts whether any of them commemorate Knights Templars; and then describes the careful process by which he has restored them as nearly as possible to their

pristine state. The eleven plates are admirable representations of them all in front and profile; and the text is amply illustrative of these illustrations.

J. Bell's Series of Compositions from the Liturgy. No. IV. Longman and Co.

MORNING prayer is the subject of the five plates in this No. In the last of them we think breadth has been sought at the expense of clumsiness; the procession, "Enter the gates," is much more to our taste; but the figure of Death in the third altogether displeasing to us in a solemn scene.

The Amateur's Drawing-Book. By W. L. Walton. London, Longman and Co.

A WORK of simple and judicious instruction, beginning with easy forms, and leading on to others of a complicated order. Towards the close, the landscapes, sea-pieces with vessels, natural figures, &c., are charming compositions, and given in lithography, so as to resemble fine drawings, with a truth of perspective and general effect, which the learner need only wish to attain the power of imitating.

Proportion, or the Geometric Principle of Beauty analysed. By D. R. Hay, Decorative Painter to the Queen, &c. 4to, pp. 78. Edinburgh, Blackwoods.

Few individuals are more competent to treat subjects of this nature than Mr. Hay, whose works on art have deservedly a very high reputation. Hogarth's line of beauty provoked much satire in his day; but whatever we may think of our author's principles, we are sure that no one can venture to ridicule them. To a great extent we are inclined to agree in his premises and conclusions; but to go the whole length of a fixity of taste (any more than a fixity of tenure) we find to be a rather difficult problem. That ancient Greece approached the nearest to this perfection is allowed by the whole world; and in referring to the productions of that land, Mr. Hay has rested on the surest and purest models to illustrate his theory. Accompanied by diagrams, &c., of which we can make no use, we have only to say of this volume, that it displays great ability, a perfect acquaintance with the points at issue, and steers more clear of mysticism than is usual in such cases.

THE DRAMA.

Covent Garden.—Jullien's popular entertainments are drawing to a close; this is the last night at Covent Garden; but we hope they are to be transferred elsewhere.

Princess's.—Novelty still continues the order of the night here. Since our last, the Woods have appeared in *Fra Diavolo* with the same degree of success that has attended their previous efforts. Miss Fortescue, a pretty, intelligent, and favourite actress, from Drury Lane, made her *début* in a pleasant little piece, *Aged Forty*, which was favourably received. *The Young Scamp*, an admirable adaptation from our neighbours in Paris, has also been produced; and popular as *Le Gamin* has been on the French stage in the hands of the veteran Bouffé and the youthful Colbrun, there can hardly be a doubt that Mrs. Keeley's version of the *Scamp* will be more liked than either; it is indeed an embodiment of sentiment and merriment, such as no living actress but herself could have conceived and carried out; and the success of the piece has been commensurate with the merit of the acting.

Adelphi.—*Antony and Cleopatra Married and Settled* has afforded the comic Wright and the handsome Miss Woolgar an opportunity for

keeping the house in good humour and bursts of laughter for a full half hour.

Strand.—The *Christmas Carol* continues in great favour here, and has been followed during the week by one of the popular extravaganzas, a burlesque on Shakspeare's *Richard the Third*. Absurd parodies, violent action, clever imitations of favourite actors, and constant bustle, keep the well-pleased audience in abundant mirth.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

GRAND DINNER TO THE BRITISH PHILOSOPHERS.
(From our own Reporter.)

YESTERDAY, pursuant to public announcement, Dr. Knowall, the distinguished president of the British Philosophical and Convivial Association, gave his anniversary dinner to a select number of its most learned members. The company began to assemble pretty rapidly soon after six, and at seven they adjourned from the president's museum to the dining-room, the tables in which groaned under the weight of a multitude of curious viands and delicacies. The central round table was covered with a singular cloth; in fact, a linen map of the terrestrial globe, which allowed of a most ingenious and instructive arrangement of the several dishes—the poultry being placed upon Turkey, the ham upon the Sandwich Islands, the wines upon Madeira, &c., and the mustard upon Durham. According to the excellent custom observed at these anniversaries on former occasions, the articles on table were discoursed of by their elegant scientific appellations only. The effect of this was both singular and delightful to the ear, as the reader may conceive from the following sample of this learned table-talk:

Mr. Lancel. Whence emanate the savoury exhalations that salute my olfactory nerves at this moment?

Mr. Crocus. From these tureens, one of which contains *Pisum sativum*¹ soup, the other *Testudo coriacea*² soup; both extremely good. Pray allow me to submit the latter to your gustation.

Mr. L. Thank you. May I trouble you for the *Solice murias*³?

Mr. Grub. The plain old-fashioned *Pisum sativum* soup for me. Leguminous diet is most nourishing. So thought the ancients, and so says my learned friend Prof. Liebig.

Mr. Cro. A little of this dried and pulverised *Mentha viridis*⁴ will impart a pleasant flavour to it, Mr. Grub.

Mr. G. Yes, yes, and a little *Piper nigrum*⁵.

Mr. Alembic. This is the work of an excellent cook. The ingredients composing this soup are in most accurate quantities and in beautiful combination.

Dr. Knowall. John! take these things away; and why don't you shut the door when you enter so as to exclude the *Felis domesticus*⁶, who has found her way in? Expel her immediately, and bring in the *piscis*⁷. Place the *Gadus morhua*⁸ before Mr. Cockle, and also the genuine *Claupea encrasicolus*⁹ sauce, lately received direct from my worthy friend Prof. Stickleback, of Leghorn. What are you waiting for, Mr. Grub?—your fish will get quite cold.

Mr. G. Why, doctor, I've had the misfortune to swallow a pectoral-fin bone, and it has stuck in my trachea immovably.

Mr. L. Bless my soul alive, I hope it don't hurt you! Open your mouth, and allow me to look down. Here, John, hold the candle near this gentleman's mouth, and be sure you don't

¹ pea-soup. ² turtle-soup. ³ salt.
⁴ dried mint. ⁵ black-pepper. ⁶ cat.
⁷ fishes. ⁸ codfish. ⁹ anchovy.

drop the hot grease into it. Ah, ah, I see it, I see it!—a little way down below the uvula. My pocket-forceps will reach it. Now it's out. See, here it is—a sharp bone truly.

Mr. Cockle. What a fortunate escape, for it might have been very serious—such a bone as that in the trachea! I once knew such a bone produce fatal results to an old *Anser domesticus*¹⁰ that happened to swallow it.

Dr. K. John, take that carboniferous excrescence out of the candle, and then let us have the next course.

Mr. Lynx. Permit me to help you to some of this *Lepus timidus*,¹¹ Mr. Lancet, for it seems a fine one. Will you take with it any of this stuffing of *Thymus vulgaris*,¹² *Illium sativum*,¹³ and *Salvia pomifera*?¹⁴

Dr. A. John, bring me another glass of the astringent decoction of *Humulus lupulus*.¹⁵

Dr. K. I'm afraid, Mr. Grub, that you're not helped to your liking. What is that you are twisting and turning about on your plate with so much scrutiny?

Mr. G. Why, doctor, I flatter myself that I've discovered a new species of lepidopterous larva in my *Brassica oleracea*,¹⁶ so I'll just put it into a pill-box till the next meeting of the Entomological.

Mr. Corvus. May I trouble you, Dr. Knowall, for the femur and tibia of that *Scelopax nusticola*?¹⁷

Mr. Cro. Shall I help you to a *Solanum tuberosum*?¹⁸

Mr. Cor. Thank you; and I will trouble you for the infusion of *Sinaps alba*.¹⁹

Dr. K. Won't you try some of that *Ribes nigrum* jelly to your *Lepus timidus*, Mr. Lancet?

Mr. G. Hurrah! hurrah! bravo! bravo! I'm so glad! I've found another zoological specimen in my *Brassica oleracea*. It's an entirely new and hitherto undescribed species of *Limax*. If I don't designate it *Limax Knowallii*?²⁰ my name isn't Grub.

Dr. K. John, tell cook if she don't discharge her duty better in washing the *Brassica oleracea* I'll discharge her. She's sent it here inhabited by animated nature—organic matter, positively.

Mr. G. Don't blame her, doctor—I'm really greatly obliged to her.

Dr. K. How do you like this *Vinum vitis vinifera*?²¹ Mr. Alembic?

Mr. A. Its vinous particles seem to be held in admirable suspension, and have a most grateful effect upon the organs of taste.

Mr. Cro. What pudding have we here?

Dr. K. That, sir, is *Oryza sativa*?²² pudding, and this is *Ribes grossularia*?²³ pie.

Mr. Cro. Some of the latter for me, with a little *Saccharum officinarum*.²⁴

Mr. G. Pardon me, Mr. Corvus, but pray don't move an atom, while I capture a very fine specimen of *Pulex Jemalongjosi*,²⁵ now perambulating your frontal bone. I have him—a very rare species indeed.

This will suffice for a specimen of the language which we may expect to hear in other circles when science has generally become the study of the people. J. H. F.

Australian descriptive Poetry.—We have mentioned elsewhere the *Adelaide Observer*, from which we copy the following *jeu-d'esprit*, in which the final lines of the stanzas, enclosed

in parentheses, purport to be incorporated in an unfinished poem, by a different hand.

"Hail, South Australia! blessed clime,
Thou lovely land of my adoption!
(I never meant to see the spot,
If I had had the slightest option.)

Hail, charming plains of bounteous growth,
Where tufted vegetation smiles!
(Those dull atrocious endless flats,
And no plain less than thirteen miles.)

Hail, tuneful choristers of air,
Who open wide your tiny throats!
(There's not a bird on any tree
Can twitter half-a-dozen notes.)

Hail, glorious gums of matchless height,
Whose heads the very skies pervade;
Whose tops and trunks yield vast supplies—
(But not a particle of shade.)

Hail, far-famed Torrens, graceful stream!
On whose sweet banks I often linger,
Sooth'd by the murmur of thy waves,
(And plumb the bottom with my finger.)

Hail, June, our grateful winter-month!
Which never bring'st us wintry rigours;
And when sweet February comes
(It finds us steaming like the niggers).

Hail, balmy rains! in showers come down,
To do both town and country good;
(And give to each on reaching home
The blessings of a ton of mud.)

Hail, land! where all the wants of life
Flow in cheap streams of milk and honey;
Where all are sure of daily bread
(If they can fork out ready money).

Hail, South Australia! once more, hail!
That man indeed is surely rash
Who cannot live content in thee,
Or wants for any thing (but cash)."

MUSIC.

THE CONTRAPUNTAL AND MUSICAL REVIEW.

WE last week closed the announcement of our new musical department by observing that it was our intention on the following week to explain our motive for calling it "The Contrapuntal and Musical Review."

We have lately been gratified to find that British musicians are beginning to feel the importance of studying their art more scientifically, and to place less reliance on manual dexterity. Brilliant and clear execution, we are well aware, is a necessary auxiliary to form a refined interpreter of musical compositions; but the experience of some years shews that musicians have too much neglected the theory of music, and have spent almost all the better part of their lives in acquiring a facility to excel only in mechanical difficulties. This ought not to be, since the important part of a performer's skill should be directed towards a classical and refined interpretation of the great compositions of ancient and the best modern masters.

The only means to arrive at any degree of perfection in the art of music is to lay in a good stock of knowledge, which shall place musicians in a position to judge with certainty the proper expression of every composition under their direction or performance, without which knowledge good music cannot be well understood, and never therefore properly executed.

We have for some little time past discontinued musical discussions, for we found that the state of the musical profession was not in keeping with what was agreeable to the *Literary Gazette*; but since a reaction has taken place, we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity to comment more fully than heretofore upon the science and its performances.

Space will not permit us to enter fully on the art of counterpoint this week; and we will content ourselves by observing, that the capacity of rendering harmony poetical and ingenious depends on the knowledge composers

have of counterpoint: the works of musicians unskilled in this important branch of musical science never touches the heart of a true lover of music, nor will such works ever survive the life of the composer.

It is with pleasure we can announce to our intelligent readers that a new musical society—the first one in England based wholly on scientific principles—has lately been established in London. The object of the society, called "*The Contrapuntist's Society*," is to elevate the musical profession and to encourage a love of science amongst its professors. We heartily wish the society well, and intend on another occasion to discuss the merits of it; but we leave the subject at present by remarking, that as counterpoint is the rhetoric of music, we deem it most applicable to call the musical department of the *Literary Gazette* the Contrapuntal and Musical Review.*

VARIETIES.

The Music of Ireland.—We hardly thought we or the public could desire any more about Ireland just now; but there is good cause to change the opinion. It will be welcome news to thousands to learn that Mr. Lover, one of the most gifted geniuses of the Emerald isle, is about to give evening illustrations of his humours and music, in the same manner as Mr. Wilson has so popularly displayed the characteristics and melodies of Scotland. To hear the author of above a hundred beautiful songs of pathos and of merriment exemplify them with all the poet's own expression, will indeed be no common treat; and we anticipate no less gratification from the legends, anecdotes, and stories, which are to accompany and explain them.

Vacher's Parliamentary Companion to February is acknowledged with thanks. The fac-simile of a parliamentary M.S. of the fourteenth century is an appropriate illustration. How they would have stared in those days at a nine-days' wonder, a monster debate!

Caricatures.—H.B. has just issued three new and very clever caricatures, both in subject and execution: the first is the meshed lion (O'Connell) and the mouse (Lord J. Russell), gnawing the net to set him at liberty. The faces of the animals are capitally expressive of their different positions. The next is "A Great Fact," Mr. Cobden leading Mr. Pattison into the House of Commons; than which H.B. has never produced any thing more personally comic. The member for the city is unique. The last is the "Quarrelling Dogs," Lords Brougham and Campbell as Scotch terriers worrying each other in farce style. It is admirably done.

Bethlehem Hospital.—The humane improvements in the treatment of insanity are finely exemplified in this most ably directed establishment. From a report just published, it appears that the hospital now contains 339 patients; of whom one-half, 65 males and 100 females, are curable—one-fourth, 34 males and 50 females, incurable—and 70 males and 20 females criminals. The admissions to Bethlehem in 1843 were 109 males and 175 females; and the average number of cures was 56 males and 103 females, or 56 per cent, and demonstrating that the females are cured nearly in the proportion of 2 to 1 to the male patients. Occupa-

* A review of Mr. Moscheles' *Harmonised Scales* will appear in our next; and we may repeat, that letters from correspondents, music for review, advertisements, &c., must be sent on or before Tuesdays to the *Literary Gazette* Office.

¹⁰ goose. ¹¹ hare. ¹² thyme. ¹³ onion.
¹⁴ sage. ¹⁵ beer. ¹⁶ cabbage.
¹⁷ woodcock. ¹⁸ potatoe. ¹⁹ mustard.
²⁰ slug. ²¹ port-wine. ²² rice.
²³ gooseberry. ²⁴ sugar. ²⁵ hen.

tion for the mind diseased is carried into effect with the happiest results. Eleven workshops are nearly completed; and a library has been formed, and placed under the care of a patient as librarian. A bagatelle-board and billiard-table have likewise been procured for the exercise and amusement of the male patients; whilst additional workrooms have been built for the female lunatics, with the use of a pianoforte, which is a great consolation to a numerous class of our unhappy fellow-creatures. Since the means of employment have been rendered available at Bethlehem, restraint has greatly diminished; the average number under restraint in 1843 has been only 3 per cent weekly. No case of suicide has occurred during the past year, although 81 patients, or 28 per cent, are reported to have had suicidal tendencies.

University College, London.—At the annual meeting on Wednesday, the Earl of Auckland, vice-president, in the chair, the report of the secretary gave a satisfactory account of the establishment.

British Museum.—Capt. James Ross' collection of natural history from New Zealand, Terra del Fuego, the Falkland Islands, and the south-polar regions, has been sent to the British Museum; enriching it with many specimens of the most interesting description—animals, birds, fishes, &c. &c.

Mrs. Loudon.—We hear with pleasure that the appeal to the public on behalf of the widow and daughter of the late excellent Mr. Loudon has not been made in vain. Upwards of 1000*l.* worth of his works have already been purchased by generous patrons.

Devon. Fossil Remains.—Workmen employed in the brick-field in Barbican-lane, Barnstaple, a few days since, excavating the clay, at a depth of 15 or 16 feet below the surface, struck upon a hard substance, which, on examination, proved to be the tusk of a fossil elephant, or horn of some other antediluvian animal. When first hit upon, the workmen unfortunately split it in pieces with their pickaxes in attempting to get it up; and, on leaving the field for dinner shortly after, some boys who were near completed the work of destruction, and carried away a great portion of it in fragments; but on a more diligent search the remainder of the tusk was traced and taken up. It was lying on the lower gravel-bed, with a superincumbent stratum of 4 or 5 feet of the blue clay; above which is about 6 feet of the yellow plastic clay, with several feet of coarse gravel and soil above. The tusk must have been of large dimensions, about 18 inches in circumference, and from 4 to 7 feet in length. It has the shape, grain, and markings, of ivory, but the colour and consistence are those of horn, and it retains a considerable degree of elasticity. The fragments weigh more than 20 lbs.; and it is supposed that more than that quantity was carried away.—*West Briton.*

Royal Songs.—Two love-songs written by the heroic King Gustavus Adolphus in 1616, have lately been discovered at Stockholm.

Durazzo Library.—Mr. C. E. Lester, the United States consul at Genoa, has written to Congress to advise the purchase of the above library, which he describes as a very rare one, of some 10,000 volumes, collected in several hundred years. It is stated to contain Greek and Roman classics, in MSS. of the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries, and to be, in short, one of the choicest private libraries in Europe. The ancient family have fallen upon evil days; and the price asked is 30,000 dollars, which the consul warmly recommends to be expended for such a

store of literature for the American people.—*Abridged from the New York Sun, Feb. 3.*

Isthmus of Panama.—The American journals are full of the president's inviting a congress of commercial nations at Paris or London to form a national (not private) association for making a canal between the Atlantic and Pacific.

The Mormons.—An intelligent gentleman who resides in the vicinity of Nauvoo writes, "that the Mormons are receiving constant accessions to their numbers from various portions of the United States and from Europe; that the Great Temple is progressing slowly; and that 'General Joseph Smith' is becoming more and more dictatorial and threatening towards the worldly powers that be, and more impious in his pretensions to the character of a prophet. Still, he is so much of the 'earth, earthy,' that he fears kidnapping or assassination by the 'evil-minded Missourians,' and keeps a portion of his forty policemen pretty constantly about his person! Smith keeps a tavern called the Nauvoo House, and by special ordinance monopolises the liquor-trade at 12*¢* a glass!"

Guano.—The first of the expedition-vessels to Africa for this loudly proclaimed manure has arrived from the Island of Angia Pequena at Liverpool with a full cargo of 400 tons. She reports her companions to have been more or less loaded when she left them; so that there is promise of an abundant supply, if that will serve the interests of agriculture.

Chosen Epithets.—From Australia we have received a file of a new and well-arranged newspaper, called the *Adelaide Observer*, in which, describing the execution of a native murderer, called Ngarbi, it is stated that he "received with evident marks of gratitude the humane attentions of M. Moorhouse, Esq., the protector of the aborigines, and the German missionaries, one of whom (Mr. Sherman) was engaged in earnest conversation with him till he was summoned by the humane governor of the jail to undergo the last sad preparations prior to his execution!"

The Lawyers rising.—In our last Toronto journals we notice an advertisement not indicative of the eminent position of lawyers in that colony; for it announces that "Messrs. Sherwood and Crawford have removed their office to the second story of No. 13 Wellington Buildings, immediately over the Grocery-store of Mr. Silas Burnham."

On a late epistle (or petition) to Congress.

Praise Jonathan, Sydney, loud or long,

In critiques grave or letters funny;

He'll gulp all flattery, weak or strong;

But, ah!—he'll not disgorge your money!

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

The disputed Territory of North America.—Mr. Murray announces a publication on this subject, entitled Oregon, California, and other territories on the Northwest Coast of North America, by Robert Greenhow, Librarian to the American Department of State.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Illustrations of the Theory and Practice of Ventilation, by D. B. Reid, M.D., 8vo, 16*s.* cloth.—Margaret, or the Pearl, by the Rev. C. B. Taylor, M.A., fcp. 6*s.*—Manual of Electricity, Magnetism, and Meteorology, by Dr. Lardner, and Miss L. S. Costello, 2 vol., 8vo, 30*s.*—My Souvenir, or Poems, by Caroline De Crespiigny, with Translations, &c., square 8vo, 7*s.*—The Oxford University Calendar, 1844, 6*s.*—The Hand-Book of India, by J. H. Stoeckeler, p. 8vo, 14*s.*—Wild Sports in Europe, Asia, and Africa, by Lieut.-Col. E. Napier, 2 vols., post 8vo, 21*s.*—The Logic of Political Economy, by T. De Quincey, 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Memoirs of Eminent Englishwomen, by Miss L. S. Costello, 2 vol., 8vo, 30*s.*—The First Voyage of Rodolph the Voyager, fcp. 4*s.* 6*d.*—On the Connexion of Geology with Terrestrial Magnetism, by E. Hopkins, 8vo, 10*s.* 6*d.*—Wanderings in Spain in 1843, by M. Haverly, 2 vols., post 8vo, 21*s.*—Pulpit Cyclopaedia, Vol. I., post 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—The Strange Planet, and other Stories, 18mo, 3*s.*—Sermons

on the Liturgy, by J. W. North, 8vo, 10*s.*—Knight's Library for the Times: Our Indian Empire, by C. M'Farlane, Vol. I. sq. 8vo, 2*s.* 6*d.* sewed.—The English Maiden, her Moral and Domestic Duties, new edit. 2*s.* sewed.—Hints to Mechanics, by T. Claxton, People's Edition, fcp. 2*s.*—Beaumont and Fletcher's Works, by Dyce, Vol. V. 8vo, 12*s.*—Outlines of the History of Ireland, for Schools and Families, 18mo, 3*s.* 6*d.*—Pindari Carmina, Pars Sec., English Notes, 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h.	m.	s.	1844.	h.	m.	s.
Mar. 3	12	13	19.8	Mar. 6	12	11	25.4
4	12	6	4	7	11	10	7
5	11	53	5	8	10	55	6
6	11	39	6				

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Chatsworth.—Mr. Ward, the editor of *Chatsworth*, informs us that "he did not write a single line or word (not even by way of correction) of *Chatsworth*, which, to gratify a friend he much valued, he consented to edit." This shows our critical acumen to have been at fault; for we certainly fancied the introductory portion to be from his pen. But, after all, does not this statement confirm the force of our objection to publishing books under the names of authors of high reputation, who have, in fact, nothing to do with them? It is a practice much to be condemned, and we must regret that Mr. Ward has sanctioned it.

We thank the editors for the Monthly Part I. of *The Apprentice*. It is a good title, and the information it furnishes is of the most useful description to artisans and mechanics, or, as it is now the fashion to call them, "operatives."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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